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FOREIGN RETROSPECT OF 1871.

"THE old year lies a-dying," and in a few hours another important portion of time will have become historical. Important indeed, for stirring in the highest degree have been the events that fill up the chronicle of 1871. It is profitable, though not always unmixedly pleasant, to give a retrospective glance at the close of the year, and, in commercial phrase, "take stock" of what the twelve months

have brought with them, of good and of evil, to the great family of nations. Into individual vicissitudes it is neither possible nor desirable to enter.

And, naturally, the first nation to claim attention in recalling the events of the year is France, to whom Experience—as represented by the year 1871—has been, in sooth, but a rough stepmother, having visited her with a larger measure of chastisement than any of her sisters, and accompanied

that chastisement with but few sources of consolation. The troubles of France, which began in 1870, culminated in 1871, and are not likely to close even with 1872. Having, in the pride of her heart and at the bidding of a selfish ruler, sinned greatly by provoking the war with Germany, she has suffered greatly too; and, unhappily, the worst of her sufferings have been—and are—self-inflicted. The defeat of her armies, the occupation of her capital, the loss of two of



HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES—(FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY A. BASSANO.)

her fairest and richest provinces, and the burden of a heavy debt laid upon her—these were severe afflictions; but the civil war through which she has since passed, and the deeds with which it was accompanied, and by which it has been followed, were more grievous evils still. The 18th of March, 1871, inaugurated a period of deeper humiliation for France than did even the 4th of August, 1870, on which day the sham victory of Sarrebruck was gained. It was much to lose thousands of soldiers at the hands of the enemy—it was more to immolate thousands of citizens by the hands of their fellows; it was a hard necessity to have to win back the capital, in flames and half ruined, from possession of its own inhabitants—but saddest scenes of all were the butcheries with which the capture of Paris was preceded and accompanied; and profoundest humiliation to a civilised people the trials and sentences, the executions and imprisonments, that have since taken place. Nor does the measure of France's follies, misfortunes, and humiliations yet seem completed. She may manage to recover the defeat of her armies, as she has done aforetime; she may survive the loss of her provinces; she may relieve herself of the load of debt upon her shoulders; but can herself-respect remain unimpaired under the rebuke just administered to her by Prince Bismarck for denying justice, even to an enemy, and the consciousness—which Frenchmen must feel—that the rebuke is merited? Then there are the internal political dissensions with which she is still torn; the party warfare and self-seeking of which she is the theatre; the unwisdom of her rulers, who prefer to sacrifice industrial prosperity to an exploded financial crotchet, and to neglect real economies in order to pander to, if not to prepare to gratify, an impotent passion for revenge. M. Thiers's blind adherence to Protectionism on the one hand, and his ill-tempered extravagance in army expenditure on the other, bid fair to work further mischief to France. While lavishly squandering the nation's resources in augmenting an army for which, in her present circumstances, she has no real need, the President and his colleagues, by their protectionist policy, fetter the energies and paralyse the hands of the people at the very moment when they have most need of perfect industrial and commercial freedom. The only good points in the policy of the ex-Emperor—free trade and the development of the internal resources of the country—have been reversed by M. Thiers. One of the first facts which strikes one in looking through the elements of the French Budget for 1872 is that the diminution of the allowance for public works is nearly equal to the increase of the cost of the army—in other words, an utterly unproductive outlay of three millions is substituted for the productive employment of the same sum. The coincidence between the figures is so close that it is impossible not to compare them, and to recognise that the effort to restore the military power of France is being made—partly, at all events—at a sacrifice of the development of its internal prosperity. The construction of new railways, the extension of navigable canals, the improvement of harbours, and all the other works which are needed to facilitate communication, and thereby augment trade, are to be suspended because the State subventions, without which they cannot be executed, are stopped; and the money they represent is handed over to the Minister of War! Better for France to devote her energies to recovering, industrially and financially, from the shocks she has recently sustained, than to labour at the formation of an enormous army, which can only beget suspicions of her designs and consume her resources at a time when she can least bear such consumption.

The great opponent of France, Germany, having succeeded in effectually crippling her antagonist—for a time at least—has since been engaged in re-arranging her affairs under the revived German Empire, in returning to her interrupted home occupations, in consolidating her conquests, in appropriating the price exacted from France for peace, in making the latter feel that she had been worsted and must do right, in "keeping her powder dry" for a possible renewal of the conflict, and in inaugurating what may perchance become a new religious reformation. Apart from those of France, the annals of Germany have this year been uneventful, except in so far as the new anti-Papal movement is concerned; but, should that movement be sustained and carried out to its logical development, it may eventually prove of more importance to Germans in particular and to Christendom in general than either the humiliation of the Gaul or the restoration of the Empire. That, however, is still a question of the future, and comes not within the scope of our "backward glance o'er wasted time."

Events in Austria and Russia, the politics of which are ever more or less mixed up with those of Germany, present no feature calling for special notice in an article not designed to be a mere chronicle of events; for changes of Ministry in the one empire and re-organisation of the army in the other are occurrences of too purely a domestic character—as yet, at least—to be of much interest to the outer world. That they may come to have a universal interest, especially the military reforms of Russia, is not at all improbable; but that eventuality, too, belongs to the future, not to the past, and therefore only demands record from the Press, though certainly worth watching by the statesman.

Of the one great event in the past year's history of Italy—the formal occupation of Rome as the capital—we have spoken so recently that we need dwell but briefly on the matter here. The Italian Government is at last settled in its long-desired home; the nation is made; constitutional rule has taken the place of priestly sway; the Romans are once more free to develop the energy, practical wisdom, and

capacity for affairs which distinguished their ancestors; and the Pope and the priests are relegated to their proper field of action—religious teaching—which, it is to be hoped, they will by-and-by duly cultivate. These are truly grand events, upon which the Italians now, and we hope the world in future, may well be congratulated. Italy, the parent of the so-called Latin races, has now her fortunes in her own hands, and may proceed to develop them without fear of dictation from without, although, it may be, in the midst of considerable difficulty within: a position which, though onerous, is yet ennobling, and after which she has sighed for many generations past. That she may prove worthy of her destiny must be the earnest hope of all genuine and enlightened friends of humanity.

Spain, whose people constitute another branch of that same great Latin race, is still passing through the throes of political transition, as has been her wont for a long time, but with these immense advantages—that she has at her head a King who seeks her welfare and not merely his own gratification, and who understands how to work constitutional institutions; and that she can have her governmental crises without revolution or bloodshed: a position which she, too, has long wished—or the world wished for her—and now enjoys for the first time for many generations. It is a good omen for Spain that her Sovereign not only thoroughly understands Parliamentary usages, but insists upon it that his Ministers also shall understand, and act upon them. Senor Malcampo seemed disposed to assume the rôle of Strafford, and govern without a Parliament; but he has found no Charles I. in King Amadeo, which is fortunate at once for Minister, King, and people. The era of palace Camarillas and backstairs intrigue has passed away; an era of open-dealing and constitutional rule has succeeded; and that is surely a great forward stride to have been made in one year—in Spain. What a contrast do the ways of Amadeo present to those of Isabella! and how full of hope for Spaniards is the change!

Passing from Europe to America, we find affairs in the great Republic exhibiting features that excite mixed feelings. On the one hand, there is reason for rejoicing in the continued prosperity of the United States, arising from their enormous natural resources and the attractions those resources offer for immigration; and, on the other, for regret that sound fiscal philosophy should still be at a discount there. The rulers of America, like those of France, still cling to the rotten rags of Protection, without, however, the excuse of necessity which M. Thiers urges. The trade of the States has declined, especially their carrying traffic, of which they once enjoyed so large a share, and has passed into other hands—those of British shipowners chiefly: and President Grant and his advisers are blind to the cause. They still continue to levy heavy duties on the raw materials of ships, and, in the hope of stimulating native production, offer bounties for the construction of ocean steam-ships by American builders, but do not perceive that this policy is the very thing to frustrate the object at which they aim. From a selfish point of view, this might seem all the better for us; but it is not so, for misdirected energy in one part of the world impairs the resources of all, and, by lessening the general stock, impoverishes mankind everywhere. In other respects, the condition of the United States is fairly satisfactory, the losses caused by the fires in Chicago and on the Prairies and some remains of disorder in the Southern States notwithstanding. The latter will in course of time disappear, no doubt; and the inherent buoyancy of the American character, and the wonderful recuperative power of the country, will ere long obliterate all traces of the former: except, we hope, the kindly feeling that has been awakened by the prompt sympathy and aid afforded by Europe, and especially by England. The old sore of the Alabama question is in a fair way to be healed up; there is no other source of discord between America and Great Britain; and we may consequently look forward with confidence to a long period of mutual goodwill and helpfulness.

THE PRINCE OF WALES.

In existing circumstances—in face, that is, of the recent danger and probable recovery of the Prince of Wales—the accompanying portrait of his Royal Highness will, we are sure, be welcome to our readers. It is from a photograph by A. Bassano—by-the-way, the very last photograph taken of the Prince before his illness. We have great pleasure in stating that his Royal Highness continues to make steady, though slow, progress towards convalescence. Some alarm, it is true, was caused on Wednesday by the following bulletin, issued that day:—"The Prince has passed the night quietly, but convalescence is retarded by a painful affection above the left hip, attended with some feverishness." Her Majesty left Windsor Castle on Wednesday, and arrived at Sandringham in the evening, with the intention, it is said, of staying a few days, prior to going to Osborne. This circumstance augmented the anxiety felt about the Prince, as it was not known that her Majesty's visit was in accordance with previous arrangements. The bulletin of Thursday, however, once more quieted the public mind, as it stated that "His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales has passed a good night. Strength is slowly returning."

A little incident occurred the other day which shows the kindly interest the Prince takes in the poor people around him. He is in the habit, at Christmas, of bestowing certain gifts upon the poor in the neighbourhood of Sandringham, and of superintending the distribution himself. This year, however, the duty had to be performed by General Knollys, who expressed the Prince's regret at not being able to be present himself, but said that his Royal Highness was deeply thankful that he was in a position to send greeting and good wishes to the recipients of his bounty.

The Prince of Wales, as most of our readers no doubt are aware, lately completed his thirtieth year, having been born at Buckingham Palace on Nov. 9, 1841. He was married, March 10, 1863, to Princess Alexandra of Denmark, by whom he has five children—two sons and three daughters.

Since the institution of the title by Edward I. the Heir-Apparent has been invariably created Prince of Wales. But it is a mistake to suppose that he is born with that title. There is no succession

of Princes of Wales; the title becomes merged in the Crown until renewed by the Sovereign's pleasure. Thus, had George IV. died whilst Prince of Wales, his next brother, though Heir-Apparent, would not have been Prince of Wales. The placarded announcement of "Birth of a Prince of Wales," which gladdened the hearts of Englishmen on Nov. 9, 1841, was founded on a popular fallacy; for an eccentric Sovereign may so determine that there shall be no Prince of Wales, save in so far as provision is made by the act of Edward III., who conferred the title on his son Edward (the renowned Black Prince), "to be held of him and his heirs, Kings of England."

But, though not born Prince of Wales, the Heir-Apparent is born Duke of Cornwall—a title created by Edward III. in favour of the Black Prince, since which time, the chroniclers tell us, "the King's first-born son, from the hour of his birth, is reputed Duke of Cornwall." He also becomes immediately entitled to the revenues of his duchy, which are held at usufruct and accumulation for his benefit. This Royal inheritance, by-the-way, is at present very lucrative. Less than forty years ago the revenues of the property, which had been grossly neglected and mismanaged, were estimated at little more than £14,000 per annum; but, under the wise superintendence of the late Prince Consort, a system of energy, and carefulness, and thrift was introduced, through which it is understood they have risen to something like £50,000 per annum, the income now enjoyed in virtue of his duchy rights by our present illustrious and beloved Prince of Wales. The very large sum of ready money of which his Royal Highness became possessed upon attaining the age of twenty-one arose from the accumulation and improvement of the annual revenues under the care of his illustrious father; and out of this fund the purchase of the Sandringham estate was effected.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

The principal topic under discussion in the Assembly this week was the propriety of imposing an income tax in preference to high import duties. M. Laverne, the reporter of the Committee, insisted upon the necessity for the tax, with modifications suiting the manners and temperament of the French nation. He explained the working of the tax in England and the manner in which it was proposed to distribute it in France. The Committee disapproved the idea of taxing French Rente and of levying imposts which would fall upon the land and upon farmers' profits. The Committee proposes a tax of 3 per cent upon Securities (*valeurs mobilières*), except Rente. It also proposes a tax of 2 per cent upon salaries above 1500*fr.* per annum, and a tax of 3 per cent upon professional and trade profits. M. Wolowski advocated the equal application of this impost to all taxpayers without distinction. He was loudly cheered by the members of the Left. M. Teisserenc de Bort condemned the inquisitorial character of the tax, and sought to demonstrate the impossibility of satisfactorily establishing it. M. Thiers, who spoke on Tuesday, in referring to Sir Robert Peel, did honour to the grandeur of the English nation, which is worthy, he said, of producing great men, whom it knows how to honour according to their merit. He added that if he had been an Englishman he should have been a Free-trader. This caused some laughter. He then traced an outline of the causes which have justified the establishment of the income tax in England; but maintained that such an impost would be both unfair and unworkable in France. On Wednesday M. Puyot-Quertier, the Minister of Finance, delivered a speech against the tax, reproducing in effect the arguments of M. Thiers. He based his opposition principally upon the vexatious, inquisitorial, and arbitrary character of the tax, and cited Lord Brougham's opposition to it in England and President Grant's Message relative to free trade. M. Puyot-Quertier stated that England only adopted free trade where she feared no competition, but was Protectionist in all cases where her own manufactures were threatened. M. Flotard said the majority of the commercial community did not accept the arguments and statements of the Minister of Finance, but favoured, on the contrary, the income tax as against an increase of the customs duties. M. Langlé defended the tax, maintaining that the Protectionist policy of the Government would ruin French trade, in the extension of which lay the only means of enabling the country to pay the war indemnity. The Assembly rejected by a large majority the proposal of M. Wolowski for a general income tax, only the Extreme Left voting for it.

A report has been drawn up by the Minister of the Interior and approved by M. Thiers, which defines the position the French Government proposes to adopt towards the press. It is intended that official corrections of false news shall be sent to the papers publishing such news; but the Government at the same time reserves to itself the right of taking legal proceedings should it deem them necessary. This project, particulars of which have been published by anticipation in the *Temps*, is warmly approved by the *Débats*.

The Legitimist party in the Assembly, replying to overtures of the Centre Right for the arrangement of the differences manifested by the vote of Dec. 18, have stated their intention of coalescing with the majority on all ordinary occasions; but, whenever circumstances demand it, the Legitimists will decidedly assert their entire independence of the Orleans family. The Legitimists are not satisfied with the explanation of the Orleans Princess, and do not accept them as leaders of a governmental party in the Assembly.

Most of the Paris newspapers, in alluding to Prince Bismarck's despatch to Count Arnim, say it is not consistent with French dignity to argue against force. The *Avenir National* says the despatch simply proves that Prince Bismarck seeks a pretext for prolonging the occupation. Several other newspapers give expression to the same opinion. The *Journal de Paris* says Prince Bismarck is right in considering the hope of a reconciliation premature, when a year only has elapsed since German artillery struck down women and children in a city where so many Germans had enjoyed hospitality and obtained their bread. The *Courrier de France* says Prince Bismarck, fearing that the Germans may become weary of supporting their enormous war Budget, is desirous of keeping up among them a feeling of hatred against the French. The *Temps* says:—"Our only care should be our internal reconstruction." *La Presse* has the following:—"Brennus has not yet left our territory, and is on the look out for a favourable opportunity to prevent our raising ourselves from our present position." The *Opinion Nationale* says, "Silence is the only reply with which it befits the vanquished to meet the insults of the conqueror." The *Liberté* states that a river of blood divides France from Germany. "Let us know," it adds, "how to suffer and wait." The same paper endeavours to show the immorality of the system of hostages. The *Journal des Débats* remarks that the acts of violence committed by the French are much less numerous than those of which the Germans have been the authors. It adds that nothing remains to be said to a conqueror who neglects no occasion to make a display of his strength and manifest the hostile sentiments by which he is ever animated.

A committee of ladies has been formed at Strasburg to receive subscriptions towards the payment of the war indemnity.

SWITZERLAND.

The National Council, in continuing its deliberations upon the revision of the Federal Constitution, has again taken the school question into consideration, and has decided that primary instruction, as well as other branches of education, shall henceforth be placed under Federal inspection.

ITALY.

The Committee of the Chamber of Deputies has approved the estimates for the armament and defence of the State, according

to the Ministerial propositions. Signor Sineo said that the amount demanded was not sufficient if the eventuality of war between France and Italy were considered. The Minister of War replied that he did not admit those fears. It was not to the interest of France to make war upon Italy; still, he added, it was needful to be prepared. The Chamber then passed the Budget of Public Works for 1872.

The Pope has found means to give a new explanation of the sense in which he understands the word captivity. At the reception of the delegates of three Roman parishes he said:—"I am not a prisoner in the ordinary sense of the word. I have neither a wall in my prison nor guards at my gates. But I am morally imprisoned; for it would be impossible for me to go out without my person and my dignity being offended."

SPAIN.

It is understood that the opening of the Cortes is postponed until Jan. 20. The first sittings will be devoted to the consideration of financial bills.

A large number of troops are being dispatched by the Spanish Government to aid in the suppression of the revolt in Cuba. On Wednesday a battalion of Chasseurs left Madrid to embark for the colony. The King met them at the railway station, and addressed them in an ardent speech. A large crowd which had assembled cheered his Majesty most enthusiastically. The Minister of the Colonies, it is said, intends reforming the institution of Volunteers in Havannah.

GERMANY.

Dr. Dollinger, as Rector of the University of Munich, has just delivered a speech, in which he said that the decrees of Rome were directed only against German science, and had been prepared by a systematic falsification of the theological text-books. Rome had formerly carried on war against the natural sciences, and had succumbed. Now she was opposing historical science. As Germany had formerly brought about the separation of the Churches, she must now labour in a pacific spirit to accomplish their reconciliation.

AUSTRIA.

It is stated that the revenue returns for the current year will show a surplus of 21,000,000 fl., instead of the deficit which was anticipated. No financial operation will, therefore, be necessary, either this year or next.

Both Houses of the Reichsrath met on Wednesday. According to the estimates in Vienna there will be ninety decided Constitutionalists in the Reichsrath, the total number of members being 204. As the Constitutionalists are therefore not in a majority, a good deal of anxiety is felt as to the course which will be adopted by the thirty-eight members from Galicia, who may be said to control the situation. The German members elected in Bohemia will of course take their seats in the Reichsrath, but the representatives of the Czech party will refuse, as heretofore, to sit.

ROUMANIA.

Advices from Bucharest state that a sharp note had arrived there from Constantinople, urging the Roumanian Government to settle the railway question in order to avoid serious complications. Austria and Russia had also urgently counselled the settlement of the question. This step of the Powers in the same direction had made a great impression at Bucharest, except upon the Red party.

RUSSIA.

An Imperial decree fixes the levy of recruits for the year 1872 at the rate of six per 1000 for the whole empire, including the kingdom of Poland. This is the usual levy in order to raise the army and navy to their proper standard. Feb. 15 is named as the last day of recruitment.

Numerous arrests have been made in Poland of persons charged with being implicated in Communist agitations, and it has been ascertained that the French Government has furnished the Russian Government with a list of all Poles and Russians known to have taken part in Communist riots in France and still residing there, also of such as have returned to Poland or are known to have corresponded with Communists in Paris.

AMERICA.

A strong Liberal Administration has been formed in Canada, under Mr. Edward Blake, the Opposition leader. As a consequence, a vigorous and energetic immigration policy is expected.

From Montevideo it is reported that, on the 15th, diplomatic relations between Great Britain and the Banda Oriental were broken off, owing to the refusal of President Battle's Government to entertain the repeated claims of her Britannic Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires respecting compensation to British subjects who have been ruined by the existing war.

INDIA.

General Brownlow, with the Chittagong column of the Looshai expedition, reports on Dec. 21 having destroyed several Looshai villages and stores, after feeble resistance; one Ghoorka killed. General Bouchier's Cachar column, on Dec. 23, reached Kollai, after an attack by the Looshais, who were driven back and followed till nightfall. Our loss was four killed and four wounded. The Sylhoos show no desire to treat. The force is suspicious of the Looshai allies, who shun fighting.

CHINA AND JAPAN.

From China the news chiefly relates to recent disastrous floods in the north, which threaten about 2,000,000 people with starvation. "Very inadequate means," it is stated, "are taken by the mandarins to alleviate the distress and save life. No steps have yet been taken to stop the gaps in the river banks, except praying to snakes and other superstitious acts. The Governor-General (Le-Hung-Chang) is looking after himself and his family."

In Japan some interest is felt concerning the revision, next year, of the treaties between that country and foreign nations, and many concessions are expected, in view of the progressive spirit generally exhibited by the Government. It is asserted that Buddhism has been abolished as the national religion, and that the monasteries have been confiscated. The Japanese Governor of Kanagawa has been elected a member of the Foreign Club.

TOO FAT.—A very distinguished and very fat Sikh officer of a cavalry regiment has been removed from the service on the ground of undue obesity. So, remarks the *Indian Daily News*, it was in olden days. Spartans who presumed to get fat were soundly whipped. One Naulcis, an extremely stout individual, was publicly exposed, and threatened with perpetual banishment if he did not quickly regain a proper and Spartan figure. More lenient, we pension Naulcis. It is not many months since a medical board sat in Calcutta upon an officer and companion of the Order of the Bath for this same fleshy failing. The Government desired to know if Colonel — could possibly discharge the duties of a field officer. The reply was, "Certainly, if a horse strong enough to carry him can be found."—*Times of India*.

THE FAMINE IN PERSIA.—The Minister of Persia has received the following telegram from the Grand Vizier at Teheran:—"Upon being appointed Grand Vizier my first care was directed towards the poor. By order of his Majesty, I have appointed a relief committee, composed of native and the following foreign members:—Ongley, English Consul; Ordel, the chief Russian dragoman; Dinnich Effendi, the secretary to the Ottoman Legation; and Berneo, the French dragoman. Two hospitals were immediately established for the poor sufficient to accommodate 300, and a school to receive poor children, 200 of whom have already been provided for. Alas, the suffering poor, are lodged, fed, and provided with fire and light at the cost of the Government. The able-bodied poor are employed upon the roads of which I have commenced the formation. The road from Teheran to Tauris is being constructed under the direction of General Bouchier, that from Teheran to the Caspian Sea by General Gasteiger, and that from Teheran to Khum by an English engineer. I have also appointed a relief committee in each town where necessity exists. I am now expending 80,000 tomanas per month for the relief of the poor of the capital and those of the provinces. The hospitals are inspected by Persian and European doctors. I have received the congratulations of all the foreign Ministers for what we have done. I send you this for your information, and to reply to the statements of ill-informed journals. We have good hopes for the crops of next year. There has been abundant rain, and snow has also fallen."

THE FRENCH BUDGET.

THE report laid before the Chamber by M. Pouyer-Quertier on the Budget of 1872 shows that, of the 340 millions which the war has cost, £213,649,000 has been already provided from the following sources:—

The war loan of August, 1870	£32,183,000
The loan raised in England	8,356,000
The sale of the Rentes belonging to the donation of the army, of surplus stores for the supply of Paris, &c. .. .	4,510,000
The advances made and to be made by the Bank of France .. .	61,200,000
The allowance made by Germany for the transfer of the part of the Eastern Railway which lies within the annexed territory .. .	13,000,000
The tax for the cost of the Garde Mobile	5,400,000
The last loan	89,030,000
Total	£213,649,000

The balance remaining to provide is, therefore, £126,351,000.

The estimated receipts of 1872 amount to £97,174,500; the expenses stand at £96,613,400. The Budget consequently shows an expected surplus of £561,100. The receipts will be composed of:—

The product of taxes which existed before the war	£72,620,500
The product of new taxes already voted and in force	14,654,000
The product of other new taxes not yet voted	9,900,000
Total	£97,174,500

The exact total of new taxes is thus shown to be £21,554,000. This sum does not, however, correctly represent the increase of annual expenditure brought about by the war; that increase really amounts to nearly £29,000,000, but the effective addition to the Budget is reduced £24,529,000 by economies which have been realised on other items. Notwithstanding the aridity of a long array of figures, it is certainly worth while to lay before your readers the list of additions and diminutions; otherwise the position could not be clearly understood.

The savings on the Budget of the Empire appear to be as follows:—

The suppression of the Civil List of the Emperor and his family, and of the donation of the Senate	£1,385,000
Ministry of Justice: reductions in the Council of State, and suppression of several Law Courts	100,000
Ministry of Foreign Affairs: suppression of Legations and Consulates, and diminution of salaries	33,200
Ministry of the Interior: diminution of salaries, &c.	110,500
Economies in Algeria	31,400
Reductions in the cost of collecting taxes	440,500
Reductions in the expenses of the Ministry of Finance	21,400
Reductions in the cost of the Navy	1,253,000
Reductions in subventions to theatres and various works dependent on the Ministry of Fine Arts	79,800
Reductions in subventions to various institutions dependent on the Ministry of Commerce, including race prizes	59,800
Public Works	2,802,800
Total of reductions	£6,328,300

The augmentations are:—

Interest on the loan of £30,000,000 issued in August, 1870	£1,584,000
Ditto on the English loan of £10,000,000	600,000
Ditto on the last loan of £80,000,000	5,553,800
Ditto on the £120,000,000 still due to Germany	6,000,000
Ditto on the £13,000,000 credited by Germany for the annexed portions of the Eastern Railway (the French Government keeps the money and pays interest on it to the railway company)	650,000
Ditto on the advances made by the Bank of France	367,200
Repayment on account of the advances made by the Bank of France	8,000,000
Increase on the Budget of the Ministry of War, which stands for 1872 at £18,000,000	3,025,100
Increase of soldiers' pensions	148,000
Ditto, civil pensions	66,200
Ditto, pensions to aged persons	24,000
Dotation of the President of the Republic	30,000
Cost of the present Assembly over and above that of the former Chamber	127,200
Extra dotation of the Legion of Honour, in consequence of the large number of crosses distributed during the war	106,900
Cost of naval pensioners, in consequence of the absorption of the special resources hitherto employed to pay them	280,000
Sundry	8,000
Augmentations in various Ministries, including repairs of damages, cost of collecting the new taxes, new telegraphs, rebuilding bridges, &c.	756,500
Payment on account of the repayment to the departments and communes of the cost of the Garde Mobile	1,288,000
War expenses incurred by the Ministry of the Interior	240,000
Total of augmentations	£28,857,400

In addition to the £96,613,400 of State expenditure, the Budget shows a further sum of £12,825,000 for departmental outlay; the general total amounts, therefore, to £109,438,000, which is to be employed as follows:—

Interest and dotations	£44,393,500
Ministry of War	18,002,000
Ministry of Marine	5,906,700
Ministry of Justice	1,343,000
Ministry of Foreign Affairs	499,400
Ministry of Interior	5,975,300
Ministry of Finance	811,600
Ministry of Public Instruction, Worship, and Fine Arts	3,815,500
Ministry of Agriculture and Commerce	642,400
Ministry of Public Works	5,225,000
Cost of Collecting Taxes	9,533,500
Deductions and Repayments of Taxes	465,100
Departmental Expenditure	12,825,000
Total	£109,438,000

It is fair to recognise that, although a few miscalculations have been discovered, this enormous Budget represents the worst; there is nothing serious behind. It includes interest, not only on the loans already brought out, but also on those which are to be made hereafter; for the £6,000,000 shown as interest at 5 per cent on the £120,000,000 due to Germany will probably suffice two years hence to cover the cost of further issue of Rentes to the same amount; and even if it should then be found necessary to offer 6 per cent instead of 5, the additional £1,200,000 required for the purpose will probably be by that time disposable, in consequence of the cessation of some of the special payments which are inevitable at present. On the other hand, there does not seem to be any probability of reductions; the £8,000,000 payable annually to the Bank of France will have to be maintained during nearly eight years; with the exception of the cost of the army, all the items of current expenditure have apparently been cut down to the lowest point; the sum attributed to public works is insufficient; and, even if any margin should arise, either from an increase of receipts above the estimates or from diminutions of outlay on certain heads, there will be urgent employment for it. France must therefore look forward to a lasting taxation of £110,000,000.

In examining, for the first time in the history of Europe, a Budget of such prodigious amount, it is an advantage to have the entire case so clearly exposed as it is in M. Pouyer-Quertier's statement. The figures are grouped in the simplest and most intelligible form; and, notwithstanding the great length of the document and the variety of matter which it contains, it is easy to understand every word of it. There is, besides, an air of frankness and plain speaking about it which gives the idea that it is true, and that we at last see clearly into the position. One may differ from M. Pouyer-Quertier as to the choice of taxes, but it is impossible not to approve the lucidity and the honesty of his report.

A YOUNG POSITIVIST.—Parson: "What's a miracle?"—Boy: "Dunno." Parson: "Well, if the sun were to shine in the middle of the night, what should you say it was?"—Boy: "The Moon." Parson: "But if you were told it was the sun, what should you say it was?"—Boy: "A lie." Parson: "I don't tell lies. Suppose I told you it was the sun, what would you say then?"—Boy: "That yer wasn't sober."—*Punch*.

THE LATEST MINISTERIAL CRISIS IN SPAIN.

FOR the sixth time in less than twelve months King Amadeus has had to face a Cabinet crisis. This time it is of his own making, and a more dignified and constitutional procedure could not be conceived of any European monarch. The truth is that every recurrence of the chronic political disorders of Spain brings out in stronger relief the peculiar adaptability of the young King for his difficult and unenviable post. All the world knows the story of the Malcampo Ministry, that combination of respectable nobodies who took office on the resignation of Ruiz Zorrilla after his defeat by Sagasta. They were nominees of the latter. Ignominiously defeated in the Cortes on Nov. 18, they astonished the deputies by reading, not their resignations, but a Royal decree suspending the Legislature. Having obtained that from his Majesty literally before their defeat, their action was perfectly Parliamentary, though its good taste is very questionable. They had boldly solicited him for a decree of a far different nature—namely, one of dissolution; but this was refused them. Too much praise cannot be given to the King for suspending the Cortes, in order to give time for a return to that calmness which is indispensable to the proper working of a Parliament, and which had completely disappeared from the Spanish Cortes for a long time. Freed from the necessity of meeting the Cortes, the Ministers seem to have done pretty much as they liked in the government of the kingdom for a month. They have bestowed State offices right and left with a prodigality quite inappropriate in men who had secured their seats on the understanding that they were to be merely temporary holders of them. A fortnight ago they talked of reopening the Cortes, but their proposal was coupled with conditions Ruiz Zorrilla at once refused to grant. They asked for a Parliamentary truce from him and his friends, and that the Budget and Cuba alone should be discussed. After this refusal they said no more about reassembling Parliament, and showed a strong inclination to govern without it. Amadeus waited patiently a whole month, and then, without saying a word of his intentions, wrote and dispatched a letter to Malcampo, expressing a strong desire to see the Cortes reassemble for the discussion of the Budget and the transaction of other important business. The moment he received this letter Senor Malcampo called his colleagues together and talked the matter over. They agreed to resign rather than face the Cortes again. While they were deliberating the King sent for Serrano, Sagasta, and Zorrilla, and read his letter to them. Scarcely had they left the palace when Malcampo entered to place the resignation of the Cabinet in his Majesty's hands. It was instantly accepted, and then his Majesty did what he has all along contemplated doing—sent for Sagasta, and asked him to form a Cabinet. Sagasta at once set to work, but he found the task not quite so easy as he had anticipated. He wished—or at any rate, pretended that he wished—Zorrilla to join him, but Zorrilla flatly refused. Sagasta urged that they were both Progressistas. Zorrilla replied that he did not wish to be a Progressista of the school of Sagasta. It is said they had high words. The Zorrilla papers look upon Sagasta's proposal as an insult. Sagasta next tried Topete, and Topete at last accepted, after no end of consultations with leading members of his party, the Unionists, and no end of "conditions" imposed by them on Sagasta. In other quarters Sagasta also found difficulty, but he eventually succeeded in filling up his eight by persuading four of the old Cabinet to return—viz., Malcampo, Angulo, De Blas, and Colmenares. The Portfolio of War he offered by telegraph to General Gaminde, Captain-General of Catalonia, whose acceptance was received by the same medium.

No one expects the new Ministry to exist twenty-four hours after the reopening of the Cortes, and it is generally believed the King has appointed it merely as a makeshift before recalling Zorrilla to power.

The Cabinet is now constituted as follows:—Senor Sagasta, President of the Ministry and Minister of the Interior; Senor Malcampo, Minister of Marine; Senor De Blas, Minister of the Foreign Office; Admiral Topete, Minister of the Colonies; Senor Groizard, Minister of Public Works; General Gaminde, Minister of War; Senor Colonel Menares, Minister of Justice; Senor Angulo, Minister of Finance.

It is rumoured that the Government will accept the nomination of Senor Zorrilla to the presidency of Congress.

BOXING DAY.—On Tuesday the Bank Holidays Act again came into operation, and there was a general suspension of business in London. The weather was wretched in the extreme, and the rain, which descended persistently, must have sadly interfered with the recreations of those who had looked forward to outdoor amusements. The appearance of the City proper was of the most melancholy character, the empty omnibuses and the deserted streets strongly contrasting with the scene of life and bustle ordinarily witnessed in the thoroughfares between London Bridge and Temple Bar. On such a day the sheltered attractions of the Crystal Palace were doubly welcomed, and in the evening the attendance at the theatres showed the extent to which the public appreciated the efforts of the managers to give satisfaction on Boxing Night.

THE NEW CONSTABLE OF THE TOWER.—Field Marshal Sir George Pollock, G.C.B., G.C.S.I., who, on the death of the late Sir J. Burgoyne, was appointed Constable of the Tower of London, was, last Saturday, formally installed in his new office. The ceremony was performed by torchlight, owing to the dense fog which prevailed. Sir George, in his uniform as Field Marshal, arrived at the Tower a few minutes before twelve, and proceeded to the Governor's house, where he was received by Lord Sydney, G.C.B., the Lord Chamberlain; Colonel Milman, Fort Major of the Tower, and other officials. On the ground in front of the house the first battalion of the Scots Fusilier Guards, under Colonel Hepburn, and a detachment of the Coast Brigade of the Royal Artillery, under Captain Handyside, were drawn up so as to form three sides of a square. On the remaining side, and a little within the square, were arranged in a semicircle, as a guard of honour, the yeoman warders of the Tower. A short procession was then formed, headed by the Lord Chamberlain and Sir G. Pollock, and accompanied by the yeoman porter, Mr. H. Hughes, bearing the keys of the fortress, and by the yeoman gaoler, who carried the axe. As soon as the procession had halted Mr. Richards, the Deputy Coroner, read (by the light of two lanterns held by warders standing behind him) her Majesty's patent appointing Sir G. Pollock Custos Rotulorum, and then that appointing him Lord Lieutenant of the Tower Hamlets. This having been done, Mr. Ratcliff, Steward and Coroner for the Liberty of the Tower, read the patent constituting the gallant officer "Governor and Constable of the Tower." Thereupon Lord Sydney, taking from the yeoman porter the keys which had previously been handed to him by Colonel Milman, said:—"In the name and on behalf of her Majesty, I give into your custody, Field Marshal Sir G. Pollock, the keys of the Royal fortress and Royal palace of the Tower of London."—"God save the Queen!" the yeoman porter cried in a loud voice, and the semicircle of yeoman warders responded, "Amen!" The troops then presented arms, the National Anthem was played by the band, the keys were immediately after handed over by Sir G. Pollock to the Fort Major, and the proceedings closed with the formal tender of possession by Lord Sydney to the new Constable of the Queen's or Governor's house.

THE GOLD-FIELDS OF AUSTRALIA.

THE Melbourne papers, with dates up to Nov. 6, state that the past month had been the most remarkable one that has occurred in the history of the gold industry in the colony for some years. The extensive improvements which have taken place in the quartz mines at Sandhurst, and the many new discoveries that have been made in that district during the last two years, have caused attention to be gradually drawn to the magnificent prospects offered for the investment of capital to work the mines there, and the steady returns which were constantly received from many of the standard quartz reefs, combined with the unequivocal success that has lately attended the companies on the Garden Gully line of reef, caused a gradually-increasing excitement to invest in Sandhurst shares, which excitement was raised to a speculative mania of share dealing during the earlier portions of October by the splendid yields returned by the Golden Fleece mine, on the Stafford line of reef. The reef in the Golden Fleece Company's claim is considered one of the best defined of any of the district, being 15 ft. wide in some parts, and yielding as much as 3 oz. to the ton. Adjoining it and on the same line of reef was the Richard Heales Company and other claims, which were expected to cut the same rich reef as was found to be so well defined in the claim of the Golden



WINTER IN PARIS: ASPECT OF THE SEINE AFTER THE LATE FROST.

Fleece Company, and there was a great rush to invest in all these claims. It was calculated that the increase in the price of stock in the Hurst and Stafford lines of reef, which are only two out of the numerous lines of reef in the district, amounted in one week alone to one million pounds sterling. It is almost needless now to mention the immense value of some of the quartz reefs in the Sandhurst district. Many of them have returned splendid yields of gold for years past, and still seem inexhaustible. Some of them have been worked from the surface to a depth of over 700 ft., the reefs being taken out all the way down, yet the stone extracted is as rich as ever. It is now considered that there is scarcely any limit to the depth at which quartz reefs may be considered payable, and it is not infrequently stated that they may be worked down to 2000 ft. with results quite equal to those obtained near the surface of the earth. The last month's yield of gold from the Sandhurst district is scarcely equal to that of the previous month, being 22,740 oz. 19 dwt. 19 gr., as against 26,084 oz. 6 dwt. 21 gr. The weekly average in July was very close to that of September—viz., 5635 oz. The value of the gold purchased in September was £107,958. So much work is now being done in the district that many companies are at a standstill through want of miners, even though £2 10s. per week per man is offered. A local paper states that there is room for hundreds more miners in the district. The Castlemaine district comprises one of the seven large

mining divisions into which the colony is divided, and it embraces Fryer's Creek, Campbell's Creek, and many other subdivisions. The claim of Rowe Brothers, at Fryersdown, contains a reef said to be 90 ft. wide, which is very rich. The claim has for a long time returned £400 a week of clear profit, with only quite an ordinary plant, and it is now valued at £100,000. A company is at present being formed to purchase it for that sum, of which £90,000 is to be paid to the family of brothers who are its fortunate owners, and £10,000 to be placed to the credit of the company, for the purpose of erecting a battery of one hundred head of stampers. There are many other valuable claims in the vicinity.

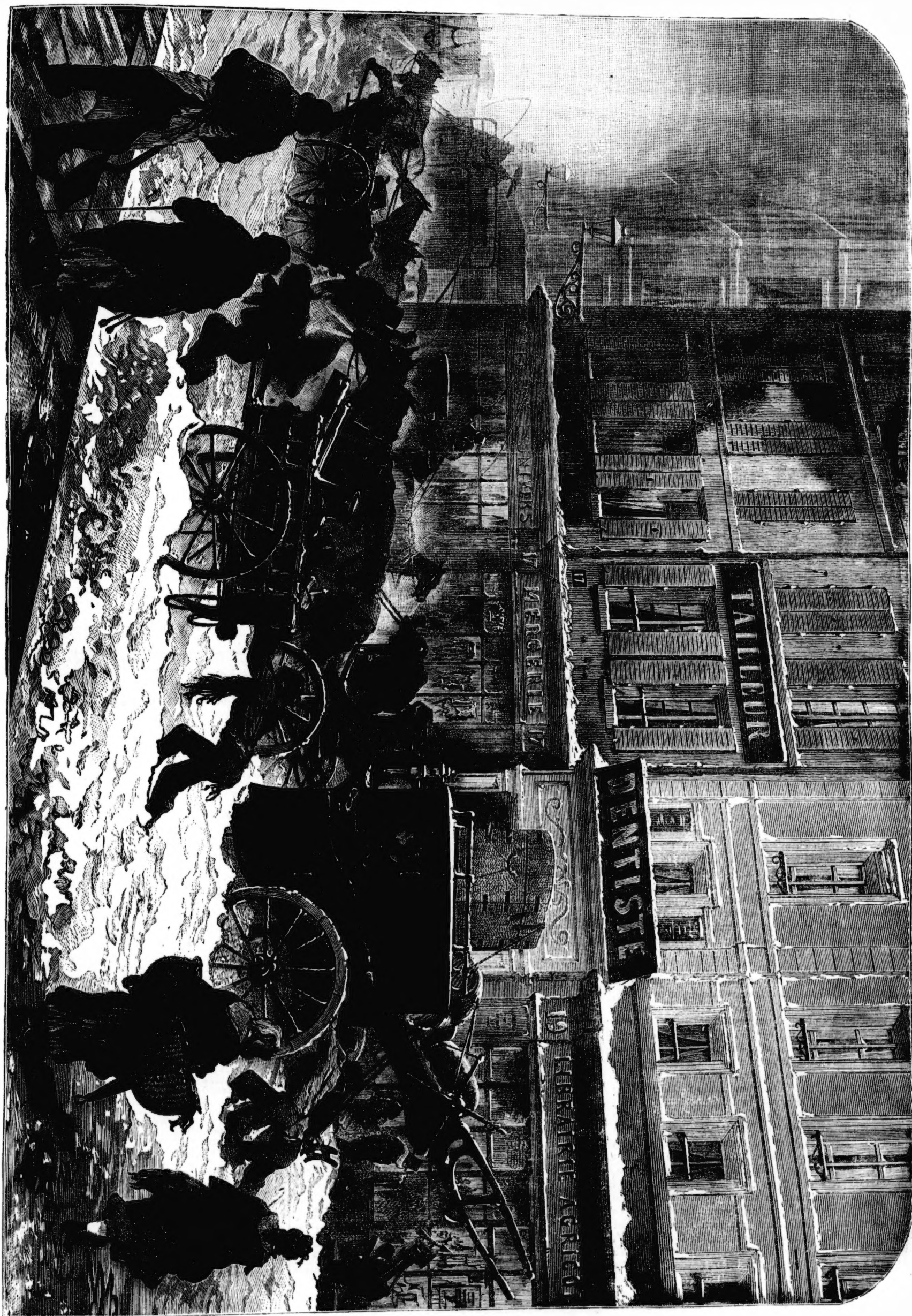
At Ballarat, which must still be considered the metropolitan gold-field, mining continues to be pursued in the most steady manner, and judging from the returns, very satisfactorily. The total yields from the whole district are well kept up, and they have not as yet been equalled by Sandhurst or any other division of the colony. The Geelong correspondent of the *Argus* writes as follows of the Steiglitz gold-field, situated about thirty miles from Geelong, and nearly midway between it and Ballarat:—"While all mining speculators are engrossed with Bendigo and Castlemaine, rich paying claims are being developed at Steiglitz, which promises ere long to become an important field. On Wednesday, Oct. 31, the proprietors of the Native Youth claim cleaned up, and from eighty-two tons of stone obtained 311 oz. 3 dwt. of retorted

gold, or at the rate of 3 oz. 16 dwt. to the ton. The mine is easily worked, and the lode is 3 ft. thick. Only four men have been employed besides the two proprietors, who will thus obtain a very handsome dividend." The most certain record of the yield of gold in the colony is the Customs return of the amount exported. The returns which have been published this year show that there has been ever since the year commenced a most gratifying increase as compared with the yields of last year. The total amount exported in 1871 up to Saturday last was 1,198,026 oz., while the amount exported to the corresponding period of 1870 was only 1,037,491 oz., or 160,535 oz. less than in 1871.

THE RECENT FROST IN PARIS.

The weather—which on Christmas Day was so mild as not to prevent the assembly of a large number of the members of the Swimming Club, who then celebrate their annual festival by a plunge into the Serpentine and a bumper of rum and milk on the bank after their dip—has been a little disappointing to skaters, and there are few signs of another frost setting in. Even in Paris, where they were sleighing in the Champs Elysees only a short time ago, the severity of the weather suddenly abated after the snow and ice had blocked up the Seine and made the main thoroughfare almost impassable. Then, when the thaw came, people

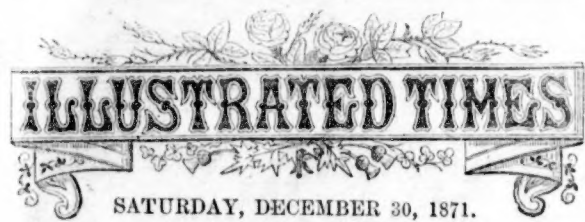
began to lament the loss of M. Haussmann, and to wonder whether, under a Republic, the Prefecture was forbidden to look to the highways of the capital. It was almost as bad as London; and perhaps no thoroughfare in the world, except Parliament-street, could compare with the principal Boulevards. Everyone wore goloshes, and there was a cry for help whenever anybody attempted to cross the road. For a whole week there was no getting over the way; and it would have been necessary to charter a steamer to cross the Place de Carrousel, which was like a vast lake. Amidst all this discomfort the ediles of the city did nothing; not a broom was piled on a pavement, not a scraper on a road; and, till the torrents of rain did the work, this wretched condition continued. One morning, however, the inhabitants of Lutetia got up and found their streets cleansed. At first they must have thought that the authorities had designed for them a nice, seasonable surprise, and that the civic forces had been organised and lying *perdre* till they could act with effect. They were soon undeceived. The thermometer had gone up ever so many degrees, and Jupiter Pluvius had come down accordingly. The highways and byways were washed, the trottoirs smooth and admirably clean, the slush and snow had disappeared; while on the Seine there were great rifts in the ice, which soon separated into masses, to be slowly floated down, leaving the water clear for the frozen-up boats and barges on its banks.



WINTER IN PARIS: A STREET SCENE DURING THE LATE FROST.

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DRUNKENNESS.

TAKING the phrase "excessive drinking" just as it stands, we do not suppose that it can be proved that excessive drinking is the cause of a greater amount of human suffering than "excessive eating." That it may cause more crime—i.e., more mischief directly cognisable by penal laws—is very possible, though it is what nobody can affirm; and, indeed, it is quite an arguable proposition that "excessive dressing" causes more crime than either. But no one need hesitate a moment in admitting that "the drink" is one of the curses of civilisation, especially in northern climates. Hence, a serious welcome should await all wise and well-timed efforts to diminish the frequency of the excessive use of alcoholic stimulants. Other evils there are which are as great as this; but if we stand haggling over points of magnitude in admitted mischiefs, we shall never stir a finger to remedy any evil whatever.

The case, however, for the reasonable use of what are called alcoholic stimulants stands just where it did before a knot of physicians published their last protest—a protest which we may presume most of our readers have seen. In the first place, let us use the *argumentum ad hominem*. At the time of the second cholera visitation a physician published a protest against the eating of oysters, as being likely to induce cholera. But, unluckily for his theory, it was found that he was himself a considerable eater of oysters, and that he did not take cholera. Such cases do not prove much, or, indeed, anything, when isolated. But a good many of them go for something. Now, how many of the physicians that signed the protest in question are there who do not habitually drink wine and malt liquors? We, personally, have sat next to numbers of men, members of Parliament and others, who have come forward publicly to support the Permissive Bill, and we have seen them take their glass of sherry or bottle of Bass like other people, and no harm has ever come of it to our knowledge. We have not seen them blacken each other's eyes, or stab each other, or insult ladies, or otherwise misbehave themselves. Nor do we believe that there is a single man of the whole number who contemplates giving up his wine or his bitter beer, come what may.

The subject is, in fact (to use a vulgarism), "run to risings." Wine is mischievous in excess. So is tea. So is mutton. So are mathematics. So is catechism. So is joy. So is grief. And where shall we stop? The fact is, the scientific treatment of "alcohol" from the physiological point of view is one of the most ludicrous and humiliating pages in the whole history of medicine. Once it was the *elixir vite*. Within easy living memory it was, according to the greatest German chemists, an equivalent for food—a view which used to be supported by the fact that teetotallers, as a rule, are enormous eaters. Only yesterday some French chemists agreed, after a series of careful experiments, that alcohol, used in certain moderate doses, produced no appreciable effect whatever upon the functions. And the truth, after all, is that the most scientific expert in Europe knows no more than any plain, hard-working man who reads these lines may find written in his own experience. If we were all in paradise, the question would not arise at all. But, as matters go in this weary world, a glass of wine or of beer is one of the most helpful, as it is one of the most agreeable, things in life. And it has no more drawbacks than other good things of equal potency. Those who will have the moral courage to stand by the lessons of their own experience, and treat the question of the use and abuse of wine just as they would treat that of the use and abuse of coffee, will by-and-by have the satisfaction of seeing medical experts flatly contradict themselves in this matter, as they have done in others. It cannot be too firmly borne in mind that the doctor, by the very necessity of his function, is chiefly acquainted with the morbid cases. He has no chance of pronouncing upon the average of men and women, because the healthy people do not seek him. Nor, in all our knowledge of medical men, have we ever met one "protester" who could stand a resolute cross-examination on this subject. Indeed, the counsels given by doctors are largely matters of policy or expediency. A physician has just seen some wretched object with nutmeggy liver and worse, and then, with this morbid creature before him, he prescribes no wine, or only half a glass of it, for A. B. or C. D., because he fancies that, do what he may, the patient will exceed the *quantum suff.* This is very natural, and may be very wise in those who are always seeing sick people; but it does not concern healthy people who know how to govern themselves, and who know also that, as soon as the patient to whom water has just been prescribed has quitted the consulting-room, the learned prescriber will ring the bell for luncheon, and drink—something which is *not* water.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

HER MAJESTY'S NEW-YEAR'S GIFTS to the poor of Windsor, Holy Trinity, and Clewer. Will be distributed on Monday next, Jan. 1, 1872.

THE ARCHBISHOP OF PARIS has authorised the priests of his diocese to let their beards grow.

MR. CARDWELL, in company with his colleague, Mr. William Vernon Harcourt, Q.C., has accepted the invitation of the Ancient Druids of Oxford to be present at their annual festival, in the Townhall of that city, on New-Year's Day.

LORD LURGAN'S WORLD-RENOWNED GREYHOUND, MASTER MAGRATH, thrice winner of the Waterloo Cup, died, rather suddenly, at the kennels, Browlow House, Lurgan, on Monday night.

MR. SAMUEL LAING has accepted the requisition to come forward as a candidate for the approaching vacancy in the Wick Burghs.

BARONESS BURDETT-COUTTS has given another proof of the interest which she takes in the welfare of the dense population of East London by forwarding a cheque for £20 to the hon. secretaries of the Victoria Park Preservation Society. Further contributions will be received by the hon. treasurer, Dr. Jno. Tripe; or by the hon. secretaries, Mr. Francis George Heath and Mr. John Plummer, New Townhall, Hackney, E.

MAZZINI has lately been suffering from several days from an illness—defective circulation, accompanied by difficulty of breathing and bodily prostration—which has caused much anxiety to his friends.

THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY has issued a circular to the clergy to the effect that, as the crisis which called forth the special prayer for the Prince of Wales has passed away, it seems desirable that it should now be discontinued. At the same time, until his Royal Highness shall have completely recovered, the Archbishop requests that the prayers of the congregations may still be desired for the Prince's restoration to health.

MR. CYRUS FIELD, who is now attending the telegraphic congress in Rome, is about to bring forward a proposal which he urged some time ago, but without success. It is that the various Powers should bind themselves by treaty to respect in time of war all the submarine cables throughout the world.

MR. J. A. DEASE, of Turbertstown, in the county of Meath, is announced as a candidate for Kerry, where there is a vacancy in the representation, through the accession of Lord Castlereagh to the peerage. His Lordship is at present Vice-Chamberlain of her Majesty's household, an office which he held also in the Government of Lord Palmerston.

A BOY, thirteen years of age, the son of a letter-carrier at Ayr, quarrelled with his mother, last Saturday, and immediately ran to the railway, about a mile from the town, and on a train coming up deliberately laid his head on the rail. He was, of course, instantly killed.

THE TREASURY RECEIPTS from April 1 to the 23rd inst. amounted to £47,899,704—an increase of £2,334,267 upon the return in the corresponding period of last year. The expenditure has been £19,889,606. On Saturday last the balance in the Bank of England was £4,636,193, and in the Bank of Ireland £1,100,193.

CHRISTMAS IN LONDON has presented this year a total contrast to the season in 1870, so far as the weather is concerned. Sunday was a fine bright day, and the temperature was equal to that of April. On Monday it was colder, but there was no sign of frost, and in the afternoon and evening some rain fell, which became heavy as night advanced, and continued nearly all day on Tuesday.

THE MARQUIS OF ANGLESEY has presented the Rev. W. F. Drury, M.A., to the Vicarage of Holy Trinity, Burton-on-Trent, in the room of the Rev. P. French, M.A. The Prebendal Stall of Westwold in Wells Cathedral, vacant by the death of the Rev. W. D. Willis, M.A., has been conferred upon the Rev. John Earle, M.A., Rector of Swainswick, Somerset.

JOHN ROBERTS, twenty-four, described as a betting man, has been arrested at Leeds, and was, on Wednesday, brought before the Lambeth police magistrate, charged with murdering William Collett by striking him with the scabbard of a sword. The prisoner was committed for trial, and bail refused.

ANOTHER SAD GUN ACCIDENT is reported from Cornwall. A young man named George Willis was getting over a hedge with a loaded gun, when the charge exploded and severely injured him. He was conveyed to the hospital, where one of his arms was amputated. There are hopes of his recovery.

ROSSEL'S FATHER has written to the French papers complaining that his son's remains, which were to have been given up to him at Nismes for interment in the family vault, were taken away by a commissary of police and buried privately in the cemetery. This step has caused some little excitement in the town.

THOMAS NEAL, labourer, of Fenton, in the Potteries, went home drunk at four o'clock on Christmas morning. His wife upbraided him, and reminded him that he had a child lying dead in the house. Another child, three years old, then began to cry, whereupon he struck it with his fist so severely as to cause its instant death. NEAL has been apprehended.

THE STRIKE OF ENGINEERS AND IRONFOUNDERS in Edinburgh has terminated by the workmen agreeing to accept a proposal that fifty-one hours should be considered a week's work after Feb. 1, with extra allowances for overtime. This arrangement having been come to, the 600 on strike will at once resume work.

A SINGULAR SCENE was enacted on Monday morning at the Serpentine Hyde Park. The "all the year round" bathers, to the number of about thirty, assembled to take part in a swimming-match for a silver cup, which annually takes place on Christmas Day, after which they gathered round a bucket of rum and milk, and loyally drank to the health of the Queen and the Prince of Wales.

WHITECHAPEL MORTALITY.—Dr. Liddle, the medical officer of health for Whitechapel, in a report which he recently presented to the local sanitary authorities, remarks that the intimate relation between defective ventilation and the mortality from tubercular diseases, convulsions in children, teething, atrophy, debility, infantile diarrhoea, and insanity is not sufficiently understood; and, until the public thoroughly comprehend the fact that these diseases are largely induced by the want of fresh air, sufficient attention will not be given to the danger arising from the crowded localities in large towns, so that these nuisances may be effectively dealt with. Hitherto the attention of local boards has been principally directed to the number of deaths from epidemic diseases, many of which are supposed to be caused by filth and defective drainage, and hence the formation of sewers and drains has been extensively carried out in the metropolis; but the numerous deaths which are caused annually by consumption and its allied diseases have not been duly considered. As the local rates, however, are continually increasing for the relief of sickness and the support of widows and orphans, the building of asylums for the insane, and the providing of workhouse infirmaries for the debilitated and prematurely old, it is probable that local boards will direct more attention to the condition of the houses of the poor than they have hitherto done. The courts and alleys in which are the residences of the poor have been so frequently described that the public are now well acquainted with them. These places have formed the stock topic of lectures, of declamatory speeches, and of sensational articles, but the meaningless diatribes which are so freely indulged in do little or no good. For neither the speakers nor the writers venture to suggest a remedy. If taking, concludes Dr. Liddle, would take down some of the defectively-ventilated houses and convert the sites into open spaces, the work would long since have been accomplished, and we should not have to mourn the annual loss of so many lives and the annual increase of the poor rate.

A SUCCESSFUL EXPERIMENT.—In a report on the sanitary condition of the district under his charge, Dr. John Liddle, medical officer of Whitechapel, states that he recently visited the training-ship Goliath, where he saw the most striking benefits resulting from fresh air, good food, regular exercise, personal cleanliness, and cheerful industry, in the boys who are taken from the Forest-gate Industrial School, and who are in course of training for her Majesty's Navy. These boys are the children of pauper parents, and were received into the Industrial School from some of the crowded and badly-ventilated courts of the Whitechapel district. The increase in the height, weight, and breadth of chest in the boys is, Dr. Liddle says, most remarkable. If this improvement in the physical condition of the boys were the only benefit obtained by their living on board ship, and being subjected to the discipline necessary for fitting them for naval service, it would be most valuable; but, on observing the countenances of the boys, Dr. Liddle states that he found they had lost from which the boys are taken, and, instead of the downcast and sullen look, there was observable an expression of intelligence and cheerfulness; and the officers of the ship reported that habits of self-respect are soon developed in each of them. Owing to the sanitary and other arrangements, the sick-list is exceedingly small, averaging only 1 per cent, and out of 400 boys in a ship of 2500 tons, where a good deal of hard work in all kinds of weather must be performed, only two or three cases of catarrh occurred during last winter, which was exceptionally severe. Dr. Liddle gives a table showing the physical condition of eighteen of the boys when admitted, and their condition at the time of his visit. From this it appears that a remarkable increase in height, weight, and chest capacity has been attained. One boy grew 2 in. in seven months, and his chest increased in proportion—so much so that he was enabled to pass the standard required for boys entering the Navy. Another boy increased in height no less than 2½ in. in eight months, and his chest also increased in proportion. Dr. Liddle adds that similar remarks will apply to many other boys.

THE LOUNGER.

It is settled that Mr. Brand is to be Mr. Gladstone's nominee for the Speakership of the House of Commons. Last week I said, "It is curious that the *Times* does not mention Mr. Brand. Two years ago, when Mr. Denison was unwell and his retirement was thought to be imminent, Mr. Brand was generally spoken of as Mr. Speaker's successor;" and now we learn that he is to be the man. Rumour tells us that the Conservatives will certainly propose Mr. Bouverie. I strongly doubt this. I do not believe that the leader of the Conservative party will sanction such a foolish move, nor do I believe that Mr. Bouverie will consent to be the cat's paw of a Tory faction. But if he were to be proposed, what would be his chance of success? Very small, indeed, for Mr. Brand is popular on both sides of the House. Mr. Bouverie, to say the least, is not so popular. It is, though, quite true that Mr. Bouverie is better acquainted with the rules, and orders, and forms of the House than Mr. Brand. Mr. Bouverie was for two years Chairman of Committees, and in that position necessarily became learned in the rules, &c., of the House. But neither is Mr. Brand unlearned. He was Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasury and whipper-in of the Liberal party from 1859 to 1866—i.e., seven years—and in that time must have got himself tolerably well up in Parliamentary practice. But, after all, it is very difficult to learn these rules, &c.? Surely not now. With the help of Sir Erskine May's complete "Parliamentary Practice," and Sir Erskine May himself available, it requires no very great genius to be, so far as knowledge goes, a good Speaker of the House of Commons. But there are other qualifications: to wit, high-minded independence and impartiality; imperturbable good temper; graceful, winning courtesy, coupled with prompt decision and firmness. Does Mr. Brand possess these qualities? On this subject hear what a Conservative member said of him the other day. "Mr. Brand," said I, "is to be the Speaker." "Indeed!" was the reply. "Well, I have known Mr. Brand for many years, and this I can say of him, that I always found him the high-bred gentleman." Enough, then, on this head; for the character of a high-bred gentleman comprehends most of what is needed to make a good Speaker. "But he is not tall enough," some object; "a Speaker of the House of Commons, Sir, should be tall, imposing." Well, Mr. Brand is not tall, nor is he dwarfish. He is, I fancy, as tall as Mr. Speaker Abercrombie was; and then he walks erect, showing every inch of his height; and when he shall get on his wig and gown he certainly will not look diminutive.

And now, doubtless, my readers will like me to answer the question, who is Mr. Brand? for since I began to write these articles I have learned that no writings of mine have been more read than those which have told my readers "who is who." The Right Honourable (he is already a Privy Councillor) Henry Bouverie Willoughby Brand (curious that he should be named Bouverie; how he came by that name I know not) is the second son of the twenty-first Baron Dacre (Dodd says the twentieth, but this is wrong), and heir-presumptive to his brother, the twenty-second Baron, who, though married, is childless. Twenty-second Baron! This Peerage must be very old, then? Yes; one of the oldest in England. It is traceable to one of three brothers named Vaux, who came over with the Conqueror. Whether the twenty-second Baron is the lineal descendant of the first Baron I cannot say; without carefully tracing the lineage through three columns of Burke. I may, though, say that the barony, in default of male issue, goes to the female next in succession, and a glance at Burke shows that it has several times gone to females. The Dacres were famous men in the old Border wars, as every reader of ballad literature will remember. Walter Scott, too, introduces a Lord Dacre in his "Lay of the Last Minstrel," thus:—

Belted Will Howard is marching here,
And hot Lord Dacre, with many a spear.

But the present Lord Dacre dwelleth not in the Border-land; nor is he "Hot Lord Dacre, with many a spear," but a peaceable country gentleman, living at "The Hoe," in a beautiful valley in Hertfordshire. Mr. Brand was born in 1814, and is therefore fifty-seven years old. He married, in 1838, Eliza, the daughter of General Robert Ellice, and has sons and daughters—notably Captain Henry Robert, whom Hertfordshire returned to Parliament in 1868. The father represents Cambridgeshire, Cambridgeshire is a Tory county, but the Liberals, by cumulating their votes, can always return one Liberal. It is said that Mr. Gladstone would have invited Mr. Brand to join the Government, but for this difficulty—viz., that though at a general election his seat is secure, in a single-handed fight—which he must have fought if he had accepted office—he would certainly have lost his seat. Elevation to the Speaker's chair does not, of course, involve re-election.

Not a word have I hitherto said in these columns about his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, his illness, danger, or hopeful recovery. Am I, then, disloyal to the throne? Do I sympathise with Sir Charles Dilke—wish for a Republic? Not a bit of it, my friends. I am not blindly enthusiastic for monarchy—should, perhaps, if I had to choose a form of government for a new country, prefer the Republican form, with two Chambers and a President; not, though, because I think that vastly superior to our own Constitution, but simply because you can extemporise a Republic more easily than you can a Monarchy. You can make a Republic off hand in a new country; but a Monarchy, to be efficient, must grow. Indeed, it is doubtful whether you can plant a Monarchy now in new soil with any hope of success. But, however this may be, I hold that to attempt to supplant the Monarchy by a Republic would be folly approaching to madness. The reason why I did not write about the Prince's illness was simply this. It struck me that the newspapers were overdoing the thing—churning the public mind to an artificial state approaching hysteria. But, nevertheless, I felt anxious for the Prince's recovery for his own sake, and perhaps more for the sake of the wife and mother; and I rejoice that he is convalescent. And now, if I had the ear of the Queen, I would whisper into it this suggestion:—"Your Majesty has seen how attached your subjects are to your family and to the throne. Would it not, then, be a graceful and grateful acknowledgment if your Majesty would open Parliament in person, not with the burdensome pomp and ceremony of former days, but in the simpler, less ostentatious style which your Majesty has of late adopted. If your Majesty's health would allow you to do this, I think it would be politic to do it."

The Earl of Ellenborough was at one time—how many years ago I know not—Chief Clerk of the Court of Queen's Bench. When that Court was remodelled his office was abolished, and he was awarded as compensation an annuity for his life of £7700 a year. By his death, then, the country saves this annual expense. The Earl of Ellenborough was, I suspect, rich. When he was Governor-General of India he did the thing royally, regardless of expense; and when, on looking over the financial accounts annually, as I am accustomed to do, I saw this sum standing against the noble Earl's name, I wondered that he did not, when he came to the peerage and estate, in 1818, relinquish this annuity. How many years he had the annuity before his father died I know not, but from 1818 to 1871 is fifty-three years. Since 1818, then, he has received as compensation for his loss of clerkship £408,100. I take it for granted that he was appointed by his father, who was, as we all remember, Lord Chief Justice of the Court of Queen's Bench.

After Mr. Denison's retirement from the Speakership there will be two retired Speakers on the Pension List, at £4000 a year each. There are, too, four retired leading officers of State, at £2000 a year each—to wit, Sir George Grey, Mr. Disraeli, Mr. Milner Gibson, and Mr. Walpole. Then we have Lord Clarence Paget, retired Secretary of the Admiralty, £1200; Mr. Charles Villiers, retired a Secretary of the Poor-Law Board; and Mr. Hendlam £1200, retired Judge Advocate; and under the head of pensions for judges, four ex-Lord Chancellors, at £5000

ANCIENT MAP OF NORTH AMERICA.—At a meeting of the American Geographical Society, held at New York on Nov. 28, there was exhibited a large photographic copy of a map of part of America, ascribed as made by Verazzano in 1529. Verazzano is supposed to have preceded Hudson in the discovery of the bay and harbour of New York, and to have been the first navigator who explored the coast of what is now the United States, landing in several places between North Carolina and New Brunswick, a full account of which voyage is contained in a letter written by him to Francis I., which is now in a public library in Florence; but the genuineness of this letter has been questioned, as well as the fact of such a voyage. A map, or planisphere, of the world, made by Verazzano's brother five years after this alleged voyage—that is, in 1529—was discovered, a few years ago, in the College of the Propaganda at Rome, containing the North American coast, and indicating the discoveries of Verazzano. The society has obtained a photographic copy of this map. It shows the outlines of the North American continent, almost as in modern maps. Verazzano was of obscure birth, but became known as an adventurous sailor, and made several voyages to the East Indies. He subsequently became a corsair, or buccaneer, and captured two of the ships of Cortez, and also a Portuguese ship laden with gold. He was finally taken prisoner in a naval battle by the Biscayens, and hanged at Porta la Piro, as some historians relate, while others say he was taken to Madrid and imprisoned. The New York meeting was addressed by the Hon. Henry C. Murphy, who is a believer in the genuineness of the letter and the map.



OPENING OF THE ITALIAN PARLIAMENT AT ROME: KING VICTOR EMMANUEL



ING VICTOR EMMANUEL READING HIS SPEECH.

PRINCE BISMARCK ON FRENCH JUSTICE.

The *German Correspondent* publishes the text of a despatch sent by Prince Bismarck to the German Ambassador in Paris, Count von Arnim, on the subject of the acquittal of Bertin and Tonnelet, who were accused of the murder of German subjects in France. It is as follows:—

Berlin, Dec. 7, 1871.

"Your Excellency will have already learned, through the press, what impression has been produced on public opinion in Germany by the acquittals in Melun and Paris. Whatever other differences may exist between political parties here, on this point they are all unanimous. It is far from our intention to lay the responsibility for the verdicts of the juries at the door of the French Government, which, we are ready to believe, is unable to control the leanings of its officials engaged in such trials. On the contrary, the fact that the feeling of justice is so completely extinguished in France, even in the circles in which we are accustomed to seek for the upholders of legal order and the administration of justice, enables Europe to justly appreciate the difficulties encountered by the French Government in its efforts to liberate attachment to law and order from the oppression to which it is subjected by the passions of the masses.

"In requesting your Excellency, therefore, to talk over the matter with M. de Rémusat, it is not our intention to repeat the reproaches of the German press and cast them in the face of the French Government, but rather to anticipate the charge that we had neglected to make known in due time our convictions regarding the possible consequences of a repetition of occurrences like these.

"When a crime such as premeditated murder remains unatoned for it is natural for outraged public feeling, when it finds justice to be unattainable, to thirst for reprisals. Were it possible for us to adopt the standpoint of Melun and Paris with regard to the administration of the law, the *justitians* would lead us so far that on our side, too, the killing of Frenchmen, when committed within the limits of our jurisdiction, would be attended by no penalty. The high moral culture of the German people, no less than their inborn love of justice, precludes such a supposition. Still it will be no easy matter, after what has already happened, in case similar crimes be again perpetrated, to satisfy public opinion in Germany by a reference to the decisions of French law courts. The commanders of our troops in the occupied territory have consequently by the proclamation of martial law—a measure of direct self-defence—subjected all outrages against our troops to the competence of the military authorities. The cases in which the immediate arrest of the criminal is practicable will therefore no longer give rise to international difficulties. But every demand for extradition which we may be obliged to make will excite and give umbrage to public opinion in France. It was for this reason that after requiring the surrender of Tonnelet and Bertin we waived our rights in confident reliance on the French administration of justice. But in future it would be impossible for us to exercise the same moderation in presence of the indignation of the German people; on the contrary, if the extradition of the criminals were denied us, we should be necessitated to seize and retain Frenchmen as hostages, or, if circumstances required it, to adopt still more decided measures in order to obtain the fulfilment of our demand—an eventuality from which we earnestly desire to be dispensed.

"But quite apart from the dangers to our present relations which we must apprehend from this quarter, the incidents of Melun and Paris furnish us with an evidence of the temper of even the more educated and well-to-do classes towards Germany which, in the interest of our own security, cannot but influence our future demeanour. We cannot conceal from ourselves that, although we were attacked last year by France without any provocation, the exasperation arising from our having victoriously defended ourselves is so intense, even in the circles from which juries, administrative functionaries, lawyers and judges are recruited, that in the negotiations which have still to be conducted with France, not only the guarantees for the fulfilment of the conditions of peace, but also the defensive strength of our position within the occupied departments, must be taken into account. Your Excellency will remember that the late negotiations with M. Pouyer-Quertier were conducted in a spirit of confidence that the last traces of our occupation would disappear, by means of a mutual agreement, at an earlier term than that stipulated in the treaty of peace. The light which has been thrown by the proceedings at Melun and Paris on the attitude and intentions of even the more educated classes of Frenchmen with regard to us has rudely dispelled this confidence, and that the more readily as the friends of legality and order in the French press have not believed themselves strong enough to pass an unreserved condemnation on the behaviour of the jury, the counsel, and the applauding public. The few voices which were raised in timid deprecation supported their objections solely with the practical consideration that the occupation furnished the Germans with the means of retaliating on France; but no declaration was risked that the mode in which the verdicts of acquittal had been obtained was irreconcilable with the eternal principles of justice and legal order, as well as with the present stadium of civilisation. It consequently appears that even these faint-hearted remonances in the cause of justice would be no longer heard if once our occupation were a thing of the past.

"Your Excellency will please to submit these reflections to M. de Rémusat, but without, as I repeat, lending them such a form as might give room for an assumption that we are dissatisfied with the Government of the Republic. Your Excellency will rather, and before all things, lay stress on the regret and disappointment we experience in finding that, immediately after we had given the most convincing proofs of our friendly disposition in the last negotiations, facts have come to light in the face of which I must, however unwillingly, pronounce our hopes of a restoration of mutual confidence to be premature.

"BISMARCK."

THE GREAT TOWNS OF ENGLAND.

THERE are seventeen Parliamentary boroughs in England and Wales, besides those in the metropolis, which contain more than 100,000 inhabitants. These towns, taken in alphabetical order, stand as follows:—

Birmingham	343,696	Oldham	113,092
Bradford	145,827	Portsmouth	112,954
Brighton	103,760	Salford	124,805
Bristol	182,524	Sheffield	239,947
Hull	123,111	Stoke-upon-Trent	130,507
Leeds	259,201	Sunderland	104,490
Liverpool	493,346	Widnesbury	116,768
Manchester	383,843	Wolverhampton	163,408
Newcastle-on-Tyne	128,160		

Now, it is one of the curious facts of the Census that these figures convey scarcely any information as to the relative magnitude of these seventeen boroughs. All that they tell us is the number of people dwelling within a certain arbitrary limit, which in some cases has hardly any relation to the actual boundaries of the town itself. It is only possible to judge of the real magnitude of any of these towns, as great centres and aggregates of population, by local knowledge. Taking the first and last of the boroughs in the above list, it would appear that the population of the town of Wolverhampton is nearly half that of the great town of Birmingham. Yet even a foreigner who had paid a flying visit to the hardware district would no doubt perceive that there must be some hidden error in figures which sanctioned such a conclusion. A reference to the report of the Boundary Commission at once shows that, whereas the Parliamentary borough of Birmingham does not contain nearly the whole of that spreading town, the Parliamentary borough of Wolverhampton spreads out east and south of its ample municipal boundary, and includes the town of Bilston, the townships of Willenhall and Wednesfield, and the great parish of Sedgley. The municipal boundary of Wolverhampton itself spreads far and wide beyond the actual streets, but there are within it only 68,279 inhabitants. Birmingham, on the contrary, includes all its 343,696 within its municipal boundary, and at the time of the Boundary Commission's report had over 30,000 inhabitants outside that boundary. In fact, so little do these figures do justice to the great population of the hardware metropolis, that the Registrar-General himself directs special attention to them. He says, "To get the full increase of overflowing Birmingham, the two districts of King's Norton and Aston must be taken into account; the population of the three districts amounts to 444,545," which is therefore the real population of the great town of Birmingham.

The Registrar-General makes similar observations about Manchester and Liverpool. "Manchester city contains 355,655 inhabitants; but Manchester and Salford are as much one city as London and Southwark; and parts of Chorlton belong to the same great community; so that a better conception of Manchester, as it is generally understood, will be obtained by putting these three districts together, which contain 692,164 people. So Liverpool has 493,346 inhabitants; but, adding together the population of the Liverpool district and its contiguous district, West Derby, the aggregate population is 581,203, which becomes 660,610 by the annexation of Birkenhead."

The annexation of Birkenhead to Liverpool is scarcely legitimate, as an estuary without a bridge divides the two towns, and it would be quite as fair to reckon Brooklyn and Jersey City as parts of New York, additions which would make New York almost the second city in the world. But the principle of including in the actual population of a great town all those who really live in its continuous streets, which was the principle on which the Boundary Commission acted, and is obviously the true principle, may be applied further than the Registrar-General carries it. The town of Bristol was reported by the Boundary Commissioners to have overflowed its Parliamentary boundaries, and they recommended the inclusion of the great parish of St. George and one or two smaller extensions. The parish of St. George now contains 16,206 inhabitants, and therefore, omitting the smaller extensions, the aggregate of the Bristol population is 198,730. The great towns of Newcastle-on-Tyne and Gateshead stand in the same relation as London and Southwark, with two bridges connecting them, and they therefore form one northern metropolis. Gateshead stands in the Census for 48,592. "The Boundary Commission recommended the extension of the area to include the growth of the population down the Tyne. They estimated the people who had thus overflowed the boundary at 10,000 in 1867. The aggregate town population thus centred on the river Tyne at Newcastle and Gateshead is, therefore, not less than 186,752. A similar rule applies to Portsmouth and Gosport. Indeed, the Boundary Commission regarded those two towns as so essentially one that they recommended the inclusion of Gosport within the borough of Portsmouth. The parish of Alverstoke, which includes the town of Gosport, now contains 22,638 inhabitants; the Commissioners proposed to include 15,507 of these. The actual population of the allied towns of Portsmouth and Gosport would therefore be 128,461. Another still larger aggregate of urban population, practically constituting a single and continuous town, lies in the far west. The three towns of Plymouth, Stonehouse, and Devonport are as much one as Bristol and Clifton; but they are divided into two Parliamentary boroughs. The borough of Plymouth contains 69,414 inhabitants; that of Devonport, which consists of the parish of Stoke Damarel and the township of East Stonehouse, which links the two larger towns completely together, contains 61,684 inhabitants. The total population of the one great town thus formed by the union of three, and stretching in an unbroken line from Catwater to Hamoaze, is therefore 131,098.

These corrections are not complete without including a town which would have stood in the above list if the report of the Boundary Commission had been adopted. Nottingham stands in the list of boroughs as containing a population of 86,608. The Boundary Commission reported that "the parish of Smeinton on the east, parts of the parishes of Lenton and Radford on the west, and Standard-hill and the Limits of the Castle on the south-west, though not within the borough, form an integral part of the town, being connected with it by continuous lines of buildings." They therefore recommended the extension of the boundary, and reckoned that 31,273 persons would be thus added to the borough. The population of these proposed additions, as nearly as can be gathered from the Census returns, is now 33,784. The actual population of the town of Nottingham, inside and outside its Parliamentary boundaries, is therefore 120,392.

The following is therefore a list of the actual aggregates of the strictly town population of the largest towns and cities of England, exclusive of the metropolis:—

Manchester and Salford	592,164	Plymouth and Devonport	134,098
Liverpool	581,203	Stoke-upon-Trent	130,507
Birmingham	444,545	Portsmouth and Gosport	128,461
Leeds	259,201	Hull	123,111
Sheffield	239,947	Nottingham	120,392
Bristol	198,730	Widnesbury	116,768
Newcastle and Gateshead	186,752	Oldham	113,092
Wolverhampton	163,408	Sunderland	104,490
		Brighton	103,760

The vast increase in the population of these great towns since 1861 is due in some cases to the extension of their boundaries. The extensions which the Boundary Commission recommended in the cases of Liverpool, Manchester, Birmingham, Bristol, Nottingham, and Portsmouth were not carried out. The transference of population from the county representation to the borough representation was so large that it could not be fairly made till the whole question of the balance of power between the large boroughs and the rural boroughs and counties was settled. The boroughs in the above list whose boundaries were extended

were Brighton, Hull, Oldham, Stoke-upon-Trent, and Sunderland. Wednesbury is a new borough. These seventeen great towns, constituting twenty Parliamentary boroughs, return forty-two members to the House of Commons. Their aggregate population consists of 3,490,145 within the Parliamentary boundaries, and 250,484 outside those boundaries—a total of 3,740,629. The total population living within the limits of the whole of the Parliamentary boroughs in England and Wales is 10,655,930; and of this population 6,775,245 live in the ten metropolitan boroughs and the twenty largest boroughs, leaving less than four millions to be divided among all the rest.—*Daily News*.

DEATH OF LORD ELLENBOROUGH.

THE Earl of Ellenborough, whose illness we notified in our last week's Number, died on Friday, the 22nd inst. The late Earl was born in 1790, his father being the well-known Chief Justice of the Court of Queen's Bench, who was elevated to the Peerage in 1802. But although the immediate successor of a man who found his way to the Peerage through the law, the family was mainly indebted to the Church for its elevation. Lord Ellenborough's grandfather, Edmund Law, was Bishop of Carlisle, and two of his uncles became respectively Bishops of Elphin and of Bath and Wells. Life opened, therefore, with very brilliant prospects for the deceased peer. He studied at Eton and at Cambridge, where he was by no means undistinguished, having won, in 1808, the annual gold medal. He obtained his degree of M.A. in the following year. In 1814 he was returned to the House of Commons for the borough of St. Michael's, which he continued to represent till the death of his father, in 1818. Without having exhibited in public any very marked powers either as an orator or statesman, he was appointed Lord Privy Seal, in 1828, by the Duke of Wellington, and afterwards President of the Board of Control. He held the latter office, with a seat in the Cabinet, in Sir Robert Peel's Administration. When, in 1842, he was sent out to India as Governor-General, in succession to Lord Auckland. Our troops in that quarter had just experienced severe loss owing to the treachery of the Afghans; but their fate was soon avenged, and the prestige of the British name restored by the gallant exploits of Sale, Nott, England, Pollock, &c. Cabul and Ghuznee were entered, and from the latter fortress were brought what were supposed to be the celebrated gates of Somnauth, which had been carried away many centuries before by the Moslem conquerors of Hindostan. The policy of the Afghan war, undertaken during Lord Auckland's administration, was alike condemned by Radicals and Conservatives; and although the steps which led to the recovery of our prestige had been prepared by his predecessor, Lord Ellenborough seemed to assume to himself the entire credit of the brilliant military feats which had been performed in Afghanistan. In a proclamation to the princes, chiefs, and people of India, he restored to the Hindoos the gates of their celebrated temple; and in another he threw blame on the conduct and motive of his predecessor, Lord Auckland. These acts drew upon him the censure of Sir Robert Inglis, who said that the country would not be satisfied without a vote of censure on the noble Lord; and of Lord John Russell, who said that his proclamation was insulting to Lord Auckland. Sir Robert Peel's defence consisted in observing that a single isolated act of any public man should not be made a pretext for running him down. However, the thanks of both Houses of Parliament were given to the Governor-General, the officers and troops, both European and native, for their services in Afghanistan. The Afghan affair had scarcely been terminated when Lord Ellenborough was engaged in hostilities with the Ameers of Scinde. After a brief campaign and two sanguinary battles the Ameers made their submission, and Scinde was annexed. This acquisition was noticed in the Speech from the Throne on opening the Session of 1844, and the Duke of Wellington moved a vote of thanks to Sir C. Napier and the soldiers who were engaged in the operations, which he characterised as surpassing anything he had ever read of in military history. Of course, some portion of the glory of the soldier was reflected on the Governor-General. The attack upon Gwalior, conducted by Lord Gough, was the last of the military expeditions in which Lord Ellenborough was permitted to indulge his warlike tastes, for he was recalled by the directors of the East India Company—a strong and unusual display of authority, which the Duke of Wellington on this occasion characterised as an "indiscreet exercise" of power. The Government remonstrated in vain against the recall of the Governor-General, and, to show their opinion of his conduct, he was created an Earl and made First Lord of the Admiralty. Lord Ellenborough went out of office with his party in 1846, but reappeared as President of the Board of Control, in 1858, in the Earl of Derby's Ministry. His impetuous temperament soon involved himself and the Ministry in difficulty. A secret despatch had been sent out to India censuring Lord Canning's policy in reference to the Oude proclamation; but before this despatch could have well arrived in India it was published in this country. This led to an animated debate in the House of Lords. The Earl of Shaftesbury gave notice, on May 10, 1858, that he would move a resolution condemnatory of the despatch of the Government, and on the following day the Earl of Ellenborough told the House that the act of publication had been entirely his own, and that to relieve his colleagues of all responsibility in the matter he had tendered his resignation to her Majesty, which had been accepted. Lord Shaftesbury, however, moved a vote of censure on the Government, which was very nearly carried, the numbers being 158 to 167. A similar notice was given in the House of Commons by Mr. Cardwell, but the motion was withdrawn after a protracted debate, and on the strength of what Mr. Gladstone considered to be satisfactory assurances from the Government of their approval of the policy of Lord Canning up to the time of the Oude Proclamation.

Lord Ellenborough, who was not distinguished as a speaker during the earlier period of his Parliamentary career, became, as he advanced in years, one of the most effective orators in the House of Lords. He seemed to affect very much the attitude, and even the mode of dress, of the Duke of Wellington. When out of office he sat very much apart and alone, with his head bent forward, and apparently inattentive to what was going forward in the House. But when he rose to speak he soon convinced his audience that this was by no means the case. He used but little gesticulation, or, indeed, effort of any kind, but a stream of pure English, clear, vigorous, and unadorned, flowed from him as from a living fountain. His language was picturesque, without being overlaid with ornament, and impassioned without verging in the least towards bombast. He was equalled only, if he was equalled, by the late Earl of Derby; and probably that distinguished orator was inferior to Lord Ellenborough in the directness of aim and strength of purpose which the latter brought to bear on a single point.

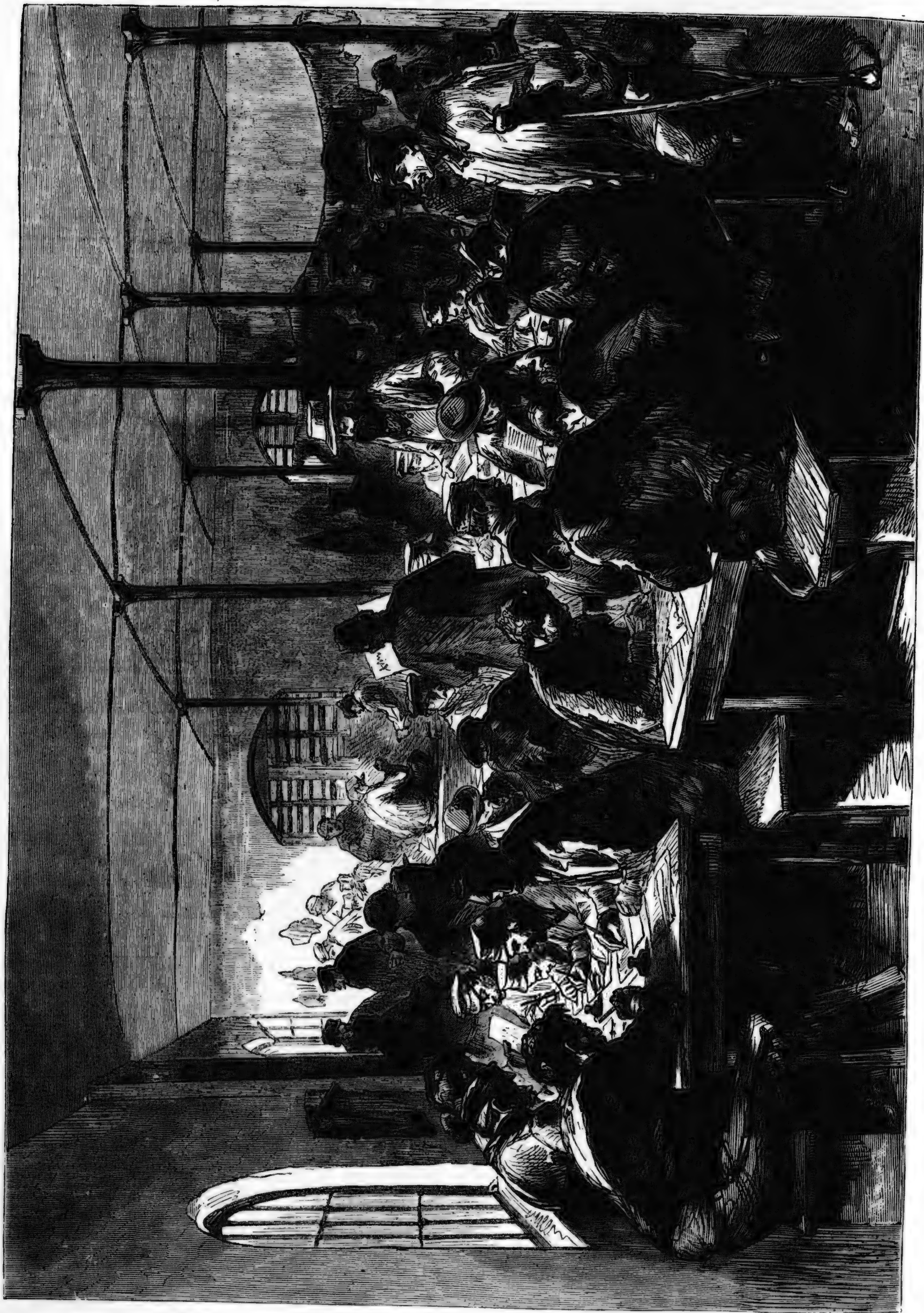
He seemed to have but few intimate friends amongst his peers, and apparently lived very much within himself. He was twice married, but was not happy in his domestic relations. He seemed intractable in harness, and incapable of submitting his will to others. He was just the man to restore the fortune or to precipitate the ruin of a State. His appointment to the government of India was, therefore, a most hazardous experiment. The earldom dies with him, but he is succeeded in the barony by his nephew.

ORAN, the second city in the province of Salta, in the River Plate, has been destroyed by earthquakes. The shocks are said to have lasted about nine hours. Happily, very little life was lost, as the inhabitants had time to flee to the open country.

CHINESE YOUTHS are to be sent to Europe and America to study at the expense of the Government, and two Commissioners will be appointed in connection with the scheme, one of whom will be stationed either in England or America, and the other at Shanghai.

CHRISTMAS IN THE WORKHOUSES.—According to annual custom, the inmates of the various metropolitan workhouses were, on Monday, regaled with roast beef, plum-pudding, beer, fruit, and other seasonable fare; the aged who indulge in such luxuries being in many instances supplied in addition with tobacco and snuff. Amongst other institutions by whom the poor are cared for at this festive season should be mentioned the Golden-lane Mission, where 350 men, women, and children were on Monday fed; and the Leicester-square Soup Kitchen, at which no fewer than seven hours were occupied on Saturday in supplying 800 families with presents suitable to the occasion.

POOR-LAW STATISTICS.—Metropolitan pauperism is naturally a subject which is at all times looked upon with deep interest not only on the part of those who are intrusted with the administration of parochial funds, but by the large mass of the ratepaying community. London, within the limits of the Metropolitan Local Management Act, in accordance with the Census of 1861, contained 360,065 inhabited houses, and a population of 2,808,862. These figures, by the late Census, swelled to 419,232 inhabited houses and a population of 3,261,530 persons, which shows but a slight increase above the last returns of the Local Government Board, which estimates the population of the metropolis upon which the returns of pauperism are based at 3,251,804, as per Census of 1871. Out of this population the returns show that the total indoor poor (adults and children) are 35,275; outdoor poor (adults), 48,734; children, 39,052; making a total of 123,061, as against 142,879, which were the numbers receiving in and out-door relief at the corresponding week of last year within the metropolitan poor-law area, showing a decrease as compared with last Christmas of 19,788. Taking the returns of the previous three years, we find them in 1868 143,004. In 1869 they increased to 150,298; in 1870 they decreased to 142,879; and this year were further reduced to 123,061. Notwithstanding this vast decrease in metropolitan pauperism, no doubt the result of recent legislation, the singular anomaly remains that in almost every parish, without exception, there has been a vast increase in expenditure. Although the Local Government Board have been applied to with a view of requesting a solution of this problem, no definite explanation has been afforded. It is, however, pretty well understood, notwithstanding the mystifications of what is termed the "common poor fund," that the increased expenditure has resulted from the heavy precepts of the Metropolitan Asylums Board for building and other purposes, and the increased machinery which the Local Government Board have considered indispensable to a more rigid test of actual pauperism. One gratifying fact is apparent—there is in all the districts, with one exception, a considerable decrease in pauperism.



FRENCH COMMUNIST PRISONERS AT SCHOOL

COMMUNIST PRISONERS AT VERSAILLES.

SOME of our readers who have visited Versailles in times before the war may remember in the Rue des Chantiers a great three-storied building, also called Le Chantier (or timber-yard), and used as a warehouse for the railway. Since the installation of the Government at Versailles this big block has been converted into a prison, where persons arrested for offences in connection with the Communist insurrection are detained until they are either discharged or sentenced by the court-martial appointed to try their cases. The inmates of this place are made as comfortable as the authorities can contrive to render their durance under lock and key, and the arrangements are tolerably complete. Each story of the building consists of an immense salle, or "warehouse floor," supported by four rows of iron columns. It is in these three vast and well-ventilated rooms that the prisoners are detained pending their trials, while outside the main building is a large courtyard, where they are permitted to take exercise from seven in the morning till five in the evening. This kind of liberty within four walls was not, however, sufficient to dispel the dreadful monotony of the day, and a prisoner named Petit proposed to open a school for instructing his fellow-sufferers in the elements of reading, writing, and arithmetic—the larger number of the prisoners being entirely uneducated. The plan has been successful, and the *détenus* gladly avail themselves of the occupation afforded them, so that there are really a large number of ardent scholars whose studies are warmly promoted by the principal officers in charge. Above sixty poor fellows are pegging away in earnest under the tuition of the instructor, and among them is a man of sixty years old, who was quite determined to learn to read, and an now write a letter, in itself approaching readableness.

THE LAKE OF GENEVA.

(From "The Mountain," by M. Jules Michelet.)

AMONG earth's things of "loveliness" we recognise two as perfect and peerless. In the Lake of Geneva, the Beautiful—a noble and exalted harmony; in the Lake of Lucerne, the Sublime.

Have the secrets ever been fathomed which the Lake of Geneva guards in its mighty depths? Are we certain that its waters are fed only by the Rhone and its forty confluent? Has it no subterranean inlets, no masked ways of intelligence on the side of Savoy, no unknown sources?

That such was the case one would be inclined to suppose when watching its inexplicable movements, its sudden rises and depressions. Even its storms have a character of their own. In May, 1867, I observed how little its swell resembled the undulating motion of other waters. Its waves appeared to my eye more like deep lines hollowed out by a chisel.

In Switzerland—the land of light—this lake is light itself; and grand is the sudden effect when, from the threshold of the Valais—from that narrow defile which is choked up at St. Maurice—the plain all at once expands and enlarges, and you pause upon the edge of a vast sun-kindled mirror. In the noontide it becomes a gorgeous festival, which at first completely dazzles you. But this mobile, living splendour is to a certain extent subdued by the harmonious character of the shores. The very mountains of Savoy, which shoot sheer down into the lake, admirably accord with the smiling heights of the Pays de Vaud. Gradually spreading out from the chestnut groves of Evian to the bold promontory of Lausanne, the magnificent crescent becomes a golden sea, which extends and shimmers even to the remote shadows of the Jura.

A process elsewhere operating only by stages, as from lake to lake, is here carried out under your very gaze. You see the roubled Rhine rushing, at first, with a foul and tawny current, then gradually subduing its impetuosity and assuming a transparent azure. Nowhere is the filtration of the waters more clearly observable, or the purifying operations which they undergo in the bosom of the lakes.

And for man, too, no less than for the waters, is the river a lofty and beautiful image of tranquillity. What struggles has it formerly witnessed! what desperate contests between rugged Switzerland and passionate Savoy! But at length it has pacified them both. Our fortunate interpreter between races and creeds, by its permanent and attractive channels of intercommunication, unites and marries together its opposing banks. It may be likened to a universal religion of nature, wherein every heart unwittingly makes itself understood by the sentiment of a tender humanity.

Not far from the Bridge of Lucerne stands a small, heavy, unwieldy edifice of stone; ay, of stone assuredly, for not a plank has been employed in its construction. It is the treasure-house of the canton, and a true treasure-house; for within it lies an iron coffer, and within this coffer a thing precious among the precious—the banner in whose folds the gallant Gondoldingen, chief magistrate of Lucerne, wrapped himself when wounded to the death. It is still stained with his blood. His last wish—his dying words—will one day be accepted as a law by the whole world: "Let no magistrate hold his office for more than one year."

But here, in the Lake of Geneva, take note of the abrupt change that has occurred, and which might induce you to think yourself in the North. Among the lofty chestnut-trees a few beeches and sombre firs present themselves, even on the lowest terrace, and descending to the very margin of the waters. And how gloomy is their aspect! No bank slopes gently down to them; no pleasant road winds round them. There is scarcely so much as a path where, during a high wind, a pedestrian may walk in safety.

The great Righi on your right, black Mount Pilate on your left, eye you with their awful stare. Over the shoulder of the latter two ice-cold giants—the Silberhorn and his sister, the Jungfrau—look down upon Geneva from a distance of ten leagues.

PROFESSOR JOWETT ON DR. JOHNSON.

PROFESSOR JOWETT has been lecturing on "The Life and Writings of Samuel Johnson" at the Edinburgh Philosophical Institution; and in the course of his remarks the learned Professor said that Dr. Johnson's life might be conveniently divided into two parts—before Boswell knew him, and afterwards. That was to say, from the year 1739, when Johnson first began to write for the *Gentleman's Magazine*, to 1763, and from 1763 to 1784, which latter was the year of his death. The greater part of his writings, with the single exception of "The Lives of the Poets," fell under the first of these two periods. His tragedy, his two "Imitations of Juvenal," his *Rambler*, his "Rasselas," his great Dictionary, his share in the *Idler* and the *Adventurer*, all belonged to that time of his life when he was unknown to Boswell. "The Lives of the Poets," on the other hand, which were originally written as prefaces to an edition of the English poets, with the

exception of one or two of them, were not published till 1782 when Johnson was in his seventy-third year. Speaking generally, and not quite accurately, it might be said that the first half of his literary life was spent in writing and the second in conversation. In the first half of his life he was comparatively unknown, at least until the Dictionary blazed upon the world; in the second half he became the best-known man of his time—the acknowledged king of literature and literary society. The remark had been made that Johnson appeared greater in the pages of Boswell than in his own, and that we turned with disappointment from the "life" to the "works." For one person who had read Johnson himself a hundred had read Boswell; and, while the one was ever new and fresh to us, we had to get over in the other the mannerism of the eighteenth century. Of all great writers Johnson was the least known to foreigners. Whilst Goldsmith's "Vicar of Wakefield" was a household book among several European nations, the works of Johnson hardly found their way across the Channel, and were not as much read in Germany as Goethe and Lessing were in England. He was too violently English to be understood by many but Englishmen. His "bow-wow" manner was not translatable into another language, nor could we expect foreigners to be amused by his prejudices against them. Johnson's fame as a poet rested mainly on his two "Imitations of Juvenal," and, in some degree, on his tragedy of "Irene." He seemed early to have discovered that he was not destined to be a fine tragedy-writer. He was wanting in grace and fancy, and almost equally wanting in the sense of metre and music, which seemed to be nearly half the poet's gift. In his tragedy of "Irene" there was hardly a trace of a distinct

The characters were only abstract notions put into clothes. The *Rambler* contained a good deal of truth, and showed some original observation of life; but whether from a greater tendency to analyse human nature than formerly or not, among ourselves, such truths had passed into truisms, and the age seemed to have become impatient of them. The style which was characteristic of Johnson was first assumed, or rather attained, by him in the *Rambler*. It was a dignified and stately mode of writing English, cast in a Latin mould—making use of long Latin words and Ciceronian cadences, but wanting in life and variety. Amongst the writings of Johnson which appeared to the lecturer most beautiful as a work of art, and most instructive, was "Rasselas." Like Boswell, he thought we might read that work with advantage once a year. It was the vanity of human wishes delineated in a sort of prose poem or idyll; it was the Book of Ecclesiastes ringing the changes on various conditions of human life, ending in a conclusion in which nothing was concluded. The melancholy dignity of the Latin style was suited to the theme. As in the other writings of Johnson, there was a want of dramatic power; yet the interest was perfectly sustained in spite of this, by the unity of the idea, and by the grace of the conversations. There was no verisimilitude in the characters; but there was verisimilitude in the thoughts. They were true to life, and such as were always passing through our minds. Of Johnson as a critic a few words must now be said. He belonged to the ethical school of criticism, which would have a reason for everything, and which judged of plays and works of fiction chiefly by their moral influence. In Johnson's time the higher imaginative criticism had not yet come into existence. Lessing, the founder of the new science of criticism in art, religion, and in literature, and the greatest critic who ever lived, was nearly contemporary with Johnson; but he probably had never heard of him. Everything was, at the time he was speaking of, measured by common sense; and the ancients, as well as the great writers of the Elizabethan age, were praised or censured in proportion as they conformed or not to a received standard. But common sense was an inadequate measure of uncommon things, and was wholly incapable of following the higher flights of imagination. Dryden and Pope might be measured by it, but not Shakspeare; or rather, perhaps, he should say that in the former case judgment might often be true, or would not be so glaringly false. Accordingly, we found that Johnson was a much better critic in the "Lives of the Poets" than in the prefaces to Shakspeare. He understood what Dryden, Pope, and even Milton were often aiming at; but of the mind of Shakspeare he had not even that conception which any man might have who would carefully study the great dramatist by the light of modern criticism. As to Johnson's character as a man, he did not propose to develop that character out of the early circumstances of Johnson, or out of the condition of the eighteenth century. Was not the man more than his circumstances? And the greater he was the less he could be explained by those circumstances. Nor did he propose to try and find "the mind's construction in the face." In the narrowness and prejudices of Johnson the strength of this Samson seemed partly to lie. Narrowness was not better than comprehensiveness; yet, by limiting himself, a man might sometimes see more clearly and have a firmer grasp. There was a certain range of human knowledge which he did not attempt to pass; there were certain bulwarks within which he entrenched himself; he was always on the side of authority and order; upon religion and politics the received notions of mankind were enough for him; he spoke a language "known and understood of all men;" the speculative philosopher and the liberal politician, to whom such a character was very distasteful, used words of uncertain meaning, sometimes helped him by technical expressions. Hence there was no comparison between Johnson and the French encyclopaedist, or between Johnson and the German philosopher. The encyclopaedist and the philosopher would not have understood him, nor he them. We must not suppose that the narrowness to which he had referred altogether interfered with the sight of the truth. In the first place, the human mind was not wholly consistent; and the English feeling of Johnson was always breaking through. The man who appeared as an apologist for tyranny could also drink to the next insurrection of the slaves in the West Indies; the friend of order eloquently denounced the inhumanity of the punishments which were prevalent in his day, and pleaded that the penalty of death should be reserved for murder. In the second place, the prejudices of Johnson were not prejudices which entered into everything; but certain fixed prejudices which left undisturbed large domains of thought. There was nothing in those prejudices which would interfere with the nicest observation of human nature; nor would his credulity about "things unseen" prevent him from rightly estimating the evidence of "things seen." To Johnson



THE LAKE OF GENEVA IN WINTER.—(FROM "THE MOUNTAIN," BY M. MICHELET.)

character. Men and women—Turks and Greeks—declaimed in the Johnsonian style. They did not live or move before us; they were only actors who strutted and played a part. "Irene" was like the work of an accomplished schoolboy—a good prize exercise, but nothing more. Johnson was right in the criticism which he made afterwards—"I thought it had been better." The parodies of the "Satires of Juvenal" were works of more mature stamp. Johnson was a scholar, and fully entered into the spirit of the original. The "Satires of Juvenal," like Johnson's imitations of them, were full of noble lessons of virtue, but also of astounding exaggerations of vice, described in the most far-fetched though forcible language. Passing to Johnson's prose works, it may be stated that the *Rambler* first appeared in 1750, when Johnson was forty-one years of age. It was continued twice a week during two years, and contained the first prose writing of Johnson which was of much importance. It consisted of moral and religious essays, including some humorous and critical pieces, and a few allegories. The style was forcible and perspicuous, and remarkable for a sense of rhythm and harmony which was not found in Johnson's poetry. But there was a want of original thought, and a want of grace and ease. Neither the serious nor the lighter papers had the interest of the *Spectator*. The writer instructed more than he amused, and his sententious mode of expression might have been agreeable to the eighteenth century, but was dull and prosaic to the taste of the nineteenth. The hand of Addison was nowhere seen, nor the art of Horace, "speaking truth in laughter." Johnson's humour was ponderous and elephantine; and he never made us believe in his fictions. We could not say of him, as he said of Foote, "The dog is so comical that I laugh against my will." Neither had he any power of lively description, such as was possessed by his friend and contemporary, Goldsmith, or still more by Defoe, who compelled us to believe the most improbable things. If, as had been excellently said of him, Johnson had written fables in which little fishes talked, they would have talked like whales." There was no dramatic invention in the *Rambler* any more than in "Irene."

might have truly been applied the saying which was with less truth affirmed of another, that he never wrote a line "which, dying, he would wish to blot." He had understood the duty and the dignity of a teacher of mankind. Yet Johnson was not an ascetic nor a pedant; he was not too good for the friendship or companionship of Boswell or Beaucerk. Of course, he knew their vices; but why should he withdraw from their society? He was the one link that connected them with better things. What was peculiarly attractive to us in the character of Johnson was the union of great tenderness and great strength. The giant had a heart like a woman or a child. Such a depth of natural affection as there was in Johnson was hardly to be found in anyone else. Johnson's religious character was curious. He was entirely free from cant. "Clear your mind of cant," was one of his sayings. Yet, on the other hand, he was always heaping upon himself reproaches for having wasted his life and lost opportunities, and was always making good resolutions, which, in his own judgment, were never fulfilled. Johnson's view of religion, though not hopeless, was gloomy. He was disinclined to speak of dying, and never got over his fear of death. He was willing to allow that God was infinitely good, but he could never be sure that he had fulfilled the conditions on which salvation was granted. He was glad to have such evidence of the supernatural as was given by the vision of Lord Lyttelton, which he called the most extraordinary thing which had happened in his time. He thought that there was more misery than happiness in the world; nor did he give any better account of the existence of evil than necessity. In conclusion, Johnson was a man, "take him for all in all," there would never be the like of him again. He was what he thought and wrote. He looked the world in the face, and in all vicissitudes he was himself. He taught literary men the lesson of self-reliance and independence. Of all men of genius Johnson was the only typical Englishman in whose strength, and also in whose weakness, we saw the national character. He was absolutely free from meanness and jealousy—a mighty soul which disdained tricks and subterfuges. He stood

upright, and never stooped; no human power could have turned him from his base. Yet in this strongest of natures there were the gentlest affection and the deepest reverence and humility. No one in his life made such an impression on his contemporaries as Johnson; there was no one whose innermost thoughts were known in such detail to posterity. The singularity of the man and the singularity of his fate in this respect were without a parallel. Johnson would be a mere name if he did not live for ever in the pages of Boswell.

SUBURBAN FRUIT GARDENS.

SUBURBAN residents appear to have but vague ideas of what may be done in small gardens in the production of fruits. Hence it is that they are not half enough in earnest in the matter, and allow what trees they have to take care of themselves. They either associate the idea of a supply of home-grown fruit with the idea of an orchard, or else they shrink with dread from the incessant labour connected with the management of the miniature trees which have been so strongly recommended by some writers during the last eight or ten years. Of the two classes of trees it is difficult to say which should be avoided. The standard trees are preferable, although they take up more space than can be well spared in small gardens; they will yield a supply of fruit sooner or later; they will also afford shade during the summer months, and they will give a quiet rural look to the garden, and present a glorious sight when in flower, and be, at all events, interesting when laden with their richly-coloured fruits. The small trees, on the other hand, will not add one item to the beauty or picturesque appearance of the place; and, even if they yield a moderate crop, it will be at the cost of time and labour utterly disproportionate to the value of the fruit. To have good fruit we must have a fair development of wood, and therefore the trees best suited to small gardens are those of a medium size—trees which, though perfectly under the control of the cultivator, are sufficiently large to produce fruit worth the eating, and in sufficient plenty to repay for the space occupied by and the labour of attending to them. The attention required by medium-sized trees is a mere trifle as compared with that required by the little miniatures, and for that reason can be mostly strongly recommended to those who have not much time to devote to their gardens. The fruits which can be most successfully cultivated in the open quarters of small gardens are apples, pears, plums, and cherries. But apricots, peaches, and nectarines must be trained to walls, and have a favourable aspect; therefore for the present they will be passed by. The fruits mentioned as suitable for the open quarter should be grown as pyramids ranging from 6 ft. to 8 ft. in height, or as espaliers about 5 ft. in height. The first mentioned form is in every way preferable; the trees are by far the more handsome and are more easily managed. Moreover, there is no expense in the erection of a permanent wire trellis, or in the fixing and subsequent labour of repairing a temporary one made of perishable material, such as wood, as is the case with espalier trees. The single cordon is admirable for forming edgings to walls; but for no other purpose is it desirable in the fruit garden. Single cordons, such as are here referred to, are formed by training a tree with a single main stem to a horizontal wire, fixed at a distance of about 15 in. from the soil. The side-shoots are pinched back during the summer months, and a continuous line may be obtained by planting the trees at regular distances apart and training them all one way.—*Gardeners' Magazine.*

THE FINANCIAL REFORM ALMANACK.—This is a volume of 136 pages, published by Messrs. Longmans, and containing much useful information. It is a simplified analysis of the Government finance accounts, copious statistical tables relating to public expenditure, the total value of imports and exports, alphabetical list of the two Houses of Parliament, an analysis of county and borough representation, with the colonial and British tariffs, and a carefully-prepared exposition of our naval and military forces. The statistics are elaborately and carefully prepared; and, although among such a mass of facts errors must necessarily creep in, the contents generally will be found correct.

THE IRISH PRESBYTERIANS AND THE EDUCATION QUESTION.—The various Education Committees of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, having previously published their several opinions on the education question, have now met and drawn up joint resolutions. The committees are the elementary, the intermediate, and the University; and, although the formal resolutions have not been published, it has transpired that, on the subject of elementary education, a resolution was adopted "condemning Mr. Fortescue's insidious proposal at Bristol to establish denominational training-schools." From statements made it appeared that successive Governments had declared themselves in favour of non-sectarianism in the department of intermediate education, and that the Endowed Schools Commission in 1858 had reported to the same effect. The attention of the meeting was called to the fact that of the 144 Erasmus Smith's schools which, it was stated, should be all grammar schools, only four are so. With reference to University education, resolutions were adopted (1) approving of a non-sectarian system; (2) more particularly for maintaining the principle on which the Queen's Colleges and the Queen's University were founded in its integrity; (3) for the complete opening of Trinity College and the University of Dublin in the manner proposed by Mr. Fawcett's bill.

DREADFUL SUFFERINGS OF A FROZEN CREW.—A despatch from Chicago, dated Dec. 9, is to the following effect:—"Lying in the river, near the lighthouse, is a vessel clad from hull to topmast in a thick coating of ice. She left this port Dec. 2, loaded with 26,000 bushels of corn, sailing before a pleasant breeze, and with every prospect of a successful voyage. Towards night snow began to fall, and at dark a fierce storm of sleet broke upon the vessel, covering every rope and sail with ice. With great difficulty the top rigging was secured, and then attempts were made to take in the frozen canvas. One sailor ran promptly up aloft, but in a short time was frozen stiff and motionless to the cross-trees. In lowering him to the deck the mate and several men were badly frost-bitten. The insensible man was revived a little by vigorous and long-continued rubbing with snow, but his legs are so badly frozen that his recovery is scarcely possible. The storm continued with unabated fury, the iceclad vessel sinking deeper and deeper as the waves washed over it. The course was changed for Chicago, where the vessel arrived on the evening of the 4th. Every member of the crew, officers as well as men, were more or less frost-bitten, as each had taken his turn aloft to watch for landmarks. As each came down he had to be rubbed with snow, to bring back circulation to his benumbed limbs. All the men are suffering intense pain; but, with the exception of the one who was first frozen, are not fatally injured. The barque, which is named the Board of Trade, is now having the ice stripped off."

GREAT LANDSLIP IN CHESHIRE.—For several years stories of landslips in the salt district of Cheshire have reached the public about Christmas time, and it is a singular fact that we have to bring the same thing again before our readers this Christmas. It seems that the hobgoblins in the lower world are always busy about the same period in that peculiar locality, rich in historical traditions of Roman, Briton, monk, and cavalier. The locality of the present slip is precisely the same spot where similar occurrences happened twelve months, two, and four years ago in a field attached to Marton Hall, at present a farmhouse belonging to the Vale Royal Estate of Lord Delamere, and in the immediate vicinity of the ancient battle-field of Edisbury, close to the spot where Nixon, the Cheshire prophet, was born, who, by-the-by, prophesied that the old salt town of Northwich would meet the fate of Sodom and Gomorrah. The present slip occurred on Saturday morning last, and presents an awful spectacle of a pit some 300 yards in circumference and about 100 ft. deep, the sides as yet almost perpendicular, although in course of time they are sure to assume the natural slope of the loose sandy stratum which composes the formation in the locality. The singular circumstance attached to this slip is the fact that no mining excavation has ever been made there, nor is it possible that, even in remote times, a mine can have existed under this enormous thick bed of sand; hence a subterranean cavity must have been washed in the salt rock at a depth of at least 200 ft. below the surface; and every Christmas that subterranean master of the ceremonies seems to have appointed of late that the people on the surface shall be made acquainted with the circumstance that, if they will rob his dominions by pumping the brine for the manufacture of salt, and give it away to all the world for such a miserable price as 4d. a cwt., they shall at no remote time be in wait of terra firma altogether. The consumption of salt has lately, for the domestic chemical manufacture, and for export to India and our colonies, assumed dimensions which make it a matter of first consequence to our commerce, and Government should look to these ominous signs of nature. The local authorities of the district are reported to have drawn the attention of Government to the terrible waste committed by improvident mining and manufacturing operations, but no action seems to have been taken beyond a reference to a mining inspector, whose reports seem not even to have been sent to the local authorities.

THE BOARD OF TRADE.

MR. CRICHTER FORTESCUE, President of the Board of Trade, has compiled a return, which has been issued among the Parliamentary papers, showing the functions and business of his department of the Government. Its duties are various, and are ever increasing. The Board of Trade is divided into six departments, each with its separate staff. 1. The Commercial Department is rather consultative than administrative. It advises (when advice is required) the Treasury, the Colonial Office, and the Foreign Office on matters relating to tariffs and burdens upon trade. It has also the business under the Acts relating to the inspection of alkali works, the registration of designs, copyright of designs, art-unions, industrial exhibitions, and the collection and publication of cotton statistics. The Standard Weights and Measures Office is also one of the sub-departments. 2. The Statistical Department prepares the official statistical volumes and returns issued periodically. It prepares special statistical returns when required for the information of members of Parliament, Chambers of Commerce, or private persons having occasion to apply to the department. It keeps a register of foreign tariffs on British produce and manufactures. 3. The Railway Department has a large amount of work to do, and there are constant demands for fresh legislation. The department has four inspectors of railways—Captain Tyler, Colonel Yolland, Colonel Rich, and Colonel Hutchinson, all of the Royal Engineers. A large part of the business of the Railway Department consists in arbitrating, appointing arbitrators and umpires, and performing under Acts of Parliament various duties of a semi-judicial or semi-legislative character. The registration of joint-stock companies is under this department. It has duties with respect to water and gas companies, and prepares provisional orders relating to them, and also for the making of tramways. It has appointed Mr. A. Stoneham auditor of the accounts of the metropolitan water companies under the Act of last Session, and Mr. Bolton, C.E., water examiner. This department receives and registers the accounts of insurance companies under the Act of 1870. 4. The Harbour Department exercises the supervision over lighthouses committed to the Board of Trade by Act of Parliament. It manages Holyhead, Dover, Ramsgate, Portpatrick, and Alderney harbours, and exercises all functions in respect to other harbours which belong to the central Government, including the consideration of numerous questions arising from local charges on shipping. It has the duty of seeing that no injury is done to navigable harbours and channels, and has the charge of foreshores belonging to the Crown, and watches bills introduced into Parliament relating thereto. It has a certain control over pilotage, and it is charged with all the duties of Government which relate to the sea fisheries of Great Britain. This department has also the preparation of provisional orders under the General Pier and Harbour Acts, and of draught orders for oyster and mussel fisheries under the Sea Fisheries Act of 1868. 5. The Marine Department is charged with most of the business thrown upon the board by the various merchant shipping Acts, such as the registry and the discipline of merchant ships; mercantile marine offices, and measures for the prevention of crimping, and the engagement of seamen and apprentices; the examination of officers, and investigations into misconduct, and into wrecks; the health of crews, and miscellaneous subjects and questions. The department has, jointly with the Admiralty, the management of the Royal Naval Reserve. The General Register and Record Office of Seamen is a separate office connected with this department. 6. The Financial Department of the Board of Trade was established in 1851, when it was found necessary to wind up the Merchant Seamen's Fund; and various branches of business have been added, the most important being the management of the lighthouse and other accounts connected with the Mercantile Marine Fund. This department has not only to keep the accounts, but to control receipts and expenditure in the various branches of business superintended. It has to deal with Greenwich pensions, seamen's savings banks and money orders, the proper distribution of the effects of seamen dying abroad, and the like. The salaries and expenses of the Board of Trade and its subordinate departments, paid out of the Exchequer, amounted to £96,799 in the financial year 1870-1; and the salaries and expenses of the mercantile marine offices and other subordinate departments of the Board of Trade, paid out of the Mercantile Marine Fund or proceeds of wreck, amounted to £66,342. The total is £163,141. The receipts by fees, &c., in respect of services rendered by the Board of Trade, amounted to £100,467, which went either into the Exchequer or into the Mercantile Marine Fund, or otherwise in or towards payment of expenses. In addition, sums amounting to £404,459 were levied on shipping in the shape of light dues, and paid in to the Mercantile Marine Fund; and £357,636 was paid out of that fund in management and maintenance of lighthouses.

SOUTH KENSINGTON MUSEUM.—A beautiful silver cup, the work of Jamnitzer, the Nuremberg goldsmith, and contemporary of Cellini, has just been added to the art-collection. The educational division has lately received a very curious toy house, made in Nuremberg two centuries ago, filled with models of utensils of the period, illustrating German life and manners. It is at present shown in the north court. Mr. William Smith's gift of water colours will be exhibited as soon as the room is prepared to receive them.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH.—Last week the aggregate mortality in London and nineteen other large towns of the United Kingdom was at the rate of 32 deaths annually to every 1000 persons estimated to be living. While the rate was 17 in Portsmouth it was as high as 61 in Wolverhampton. In the metropolis 2164 births and 1943 deaths were registered, the former having been 63 below and the latter 370 above the average. Ninety persons died from smallpox, 102 from measles, 28 from scarlet fever, 3 from diphtheria, 117 from whooping-cough, 50 from different forms of fever (of which 6 were certified as typhus, 32 as enteric or typhoid, and 12 as simple continued fever), and 13 from diarrhoea. The fatal cases of measles and whooping-cough showed a further increase upon the numbers in recent weeks, while those of smallpox and scarlet fever had declined. The mean temperature was above the average throughout the week, except a slight deficiency on Sunday, the 17th inst. Diseases of the respiratory organs, including phthisis, caused 734 deaths, against 926 in the previous week; 364 were referred to bronchitis, 117 to pneumonia, and 182 to phthisis; while in the previous week the numbers were 482, 139, and 224 respectively.

THE WELSH LANGUAGE AND PEOPLE.—The Liverpool and Birkenhead Glee and Eisteddfod was held in Lord Nelson-street Concert Hall, on Christmas Day, under the presidency of Mr. John Rhys, B.A., Fellow of Merton College, Oxford, and one of her Majesty's inspectors of schools. There was a pretty numerous attendance of Cambrians. The proceedings were conducted in the Welsh language. The Eisteddfod commenced with the afternoon meeting, when prizes were awarded to successful competitors in poetry, prose, music, art, &c. The sitting was opened with the chorus of "God Bless the Prince of Wales," given by the Welsh Choral Union. The president delivered his annual discourse, in the course of which he said that Welsh was still to a great extent the language of Wales, and was represented by about thirty periodical publications published in Wales, America, and Australia. Irish patriots envied Welshmen the vigour of the old language, but he would gladly exchange it for the voluminous literature possessed by Irishmen in the library of Trinity College, Dublin. Since the last general election—or, as he might call it, the revolt of the Celts—Welshmen had succeeded in making their claim heard in high quarters, and a Parliament founded upon a Celtic majority found it expedient to listen with some deference to their complaints. What with the clamour of Welsh bishops and Welsh County Court Judges, many people seemed to have been persuaded lately that the Welsh language was reasserting itself. That, however, was a mistake; for the language was undoubtedly going the way of all the earth, and in more ways than one. Welsh publications could not be accepted as a true test of its vitality, and frequently presented, in a gaudy, ugly kind of patchwork, English idioms clothed in Welsh phraseology. The prospects of English in the Principality were very encouraging. There the Education Department was carrying on with vigour and energy a most important work, and a little squabbling here and there served only to show how zealously Welshmen were taking up the education question. From his own experience of certain districts he could say that it was possible to teach the children of Welsh parents English with hopes of success, whereas in those parts, in the county of Flint, for instance, where the Cheshire dialect had covered the border, he should despair of attaining to any permanent result. In fact we might safely predict that a generation not far off would find respectable English in general use in North Wales, while the Cheshire brogue would perhaps continue for ages to come in undisputed enjoyment of that jargon which he now found was admirably suited to his mental calibre.

THE ROBIN REDBREAST.

In an article in the *St. James's Magazine* on "The Robin Redbreast and its Legends," we read:—"In Devonshire the redbreast is called the 'Farewell Summer.' In Wales he is considered, like Prometheus, the victim of his own philanthropy—of his love for the race of man. Not only the 'babes in the wood,' but mankind at large—if the Welsh legend be true—are indebted to these deserving favourites. How could any child help regarding the little bird 'with bosom red' with affection when assured 'that far, far away is a land of woe, dark-eyes, spirits of evil, and fire, and that day by day does the little bird bear in his bill a drop of water to quench the flame, and so near to the burning stream does he fly that his dear little feathers are scorched, and hence he is named 'Bron-rhuddyn';' and that to serve little children the robin darts approach the infernal pit, and that no good child will hurt the devoted benefactor to man? The robin returns from the land of fire, and therefore he feels the cold of winter far more than his brother birds. He shivers in the wintry blast; he is hungry, and so he chirps before your door. Oh! my child, then in gratitude throw a few crumbs to poor Robin Redbreast." The Yorkshire country people have a real horror of killing a robin; and with good reason, for they say, and firmly believe, that if a robin is killed one of the cows belonging to the person will give bloody milk. And it is said for a fact that a young farmer at Boro'bridge was determined to try and see if this bit of 'folk-lore' could be verified. With this intent one day he shot a robin purposely; when, lo! the next morning his uncle's best cow, a healthy beast of some twelve or thirteen years, gave half a pailful of red milk, and did so for three days in succession—morning and evening. The liquid was of a pink colour, which, after standing in the pail, became clearer, and when poured out there was found a deep red sediment at the bottom. The same superstition is likewise prevalent in Switzerland. The robin there alone of all birds enjoys immunity from the ready gun of the Alpine herdsman, who believes the same tradition with our John Brodie, of Yorkshire, respecting the cows, should a robin be killed on his pastures. In France likewise the robin meets with mercy at the hands of the sportsman, who is generally anything but sentimental, while the Breton peasant holds him in positive veneration. Mr. Chambers, in his 'Book of Days,' says 'The robin is very fortunate in the superstitions which attach to him. There's a divinity doth hedge a robin,' which keeps him from innumerable harms.' In Suffolk there is a saying, 'You must not take robin's eggs: if you do, you will have your legs broken; and, accordingly, those eggs on long strings, of which boys are so proud, are never seen in that county; and one that kills a robin is sure to be unlucky.' For 'He that hurts robin or wren will never prosper, boy nor man.' 'How badly you write,' was one day said to a boy in a parish school; 'your hand shakes so that you can't hold your pen steadily! Have you been running?' 'No,' replied the lad; 'it always shakes since a robin died in my hand; it is said, if a robin dies in anyone's hand, that hand will always shake.' Evil results, however, do not seem to have always followed the killing of robin. 'Who killed Cock Robin?' was the indignant and popular inquiry. 'I,' replied the sparrow, as bold as brass, without any apparent compunction of conscience, 'I killed Cock Robin.' As the sparrow did not attempt to palliate his action by alleging the unhappy result to have been accidental, but even freely acknowledged with what weapon it had been effected, we fear that it was a wilful and cold-blooded murder. True, that 'All the birds of the air fell sighing and sobbing, when they heard of the death of poor Cock Robin.' Yet still in this case we do not learn from subsequent history that any retributive justice fell upon the shedder of poor Robin's blood. It is said of the Redbreast that, if he finds the dead body of any rational creature, he will cover over the face at least, if not the whole body, with leaves. The burial covering, with leaves, of the Children in the Wood, and the play of 'Cymbeline,' are supposed to have given birth to the tradition; but this charitable office, however, which these productions have ascribed to Robin, is of very early date, for in Thomas Johnson's 'Cornucopia' (1596) it is related that 'robin, if he finds a man or woman dead, will cover all his face with moss, and some think that if the body should remain unburied, that he would cover the whole body also.'

THE NEW MARKET constructed by the Corporation of London on the site of the disused Government dockyard at Deptford for the landing and slaughtering of foreign cattle was, on Thursday, formally opened, in the presence of the Lord Mayor, Mr. Bontems, the chairman, and the members of the Markets Committee, and of a large number of the principal persons engaged in the metropolitan cattle trade.

ALLEGED OUTRAGE TO THE BRITISH FLAG.—We learn from Palermo that the Maltese schooner *Lara*, laden with tobacco for Tunis, has been illegally sequestered by the Italian authorities at eight miles distance from Palermo—two or three miles beyond the zonal demarcation of Italian waters—and the crew taken prisoners. Our worthy Consul has not allowed such a glaring act of injustice to pass unnoticed, and we have no doubt that his endeavours to reclaim the vessel and indemnify the owners for its detention will meet with success. We are glad to hear that a protest has been entered, not only against the summary procedure of the customs officers, but also against the insult offered to the English flag by the capture of a ship under its protection on the high seas beyond the jurisdiction of any Government.—*Malta Times*, Dec. 9.

CENSORSHIP OF TELEGRAMS.—At the Manchester Chamber of Commerce, on Wednesday, the circumstances under which Mr. Sudanmore recently impounded telegrams and delayed their delivery, and afterwards communicated the telegrams to the press with his correction, justifying the proceeding, and alleging that the telegrams were inaccurate, gave rise to a long discussion. The following resolution was proposed:—"That, the attention of this Chamber having been drawn to the delay of private telegrams caused by one of the officials of the department, hereby records its deliberate opinion that the said official has committed a breach of the law, and has set a dangerous example to his subordinates, which involve serious consequences to the liberty of the subject." The previous question was mooted, but, on a division, was lost. The original resolution was then carried, and ordered to be sent to the Postmaster-General.

QUEEN'S COLLEGE, GALWAY.—Statistics have been published relating to the Queen's College, Galway, showing the practical results of the training received in that institution since its establishment. From the statistics it appears that since the opening of the college, in 1859, 1127 students have entered for study in the faculties of arts, medicine, and law, and in the department of engineering. Of this number, 381 were Protestant Episcopalians, 516 Roman Catholics, 182 Presbyterians, and 48 of other denominations. Of these 95 have obtained Government appointments; three have obtained studentships at the Inns of Court in Dublin and London; 366 have obtained degrees and diplomas in arts, medicine, law, and engineering; and 147 are at present on the books for the session, of whom 88 are Roman Catholics, 30 Episcopalians, 28 Presbyterians, and 6 of other denominations. The Government appointments alluded to were—25 in the Civil Service of India, comprising judges of district courts, engineering, and the telegraph departments; 40 in the Army medical service; 17 in the Navy medical service; 4 inspectors of national schools; 2 inspectors of constabulary; and 7 'Home appointments, War Office, &c.' Of these 95, the Protestant Episcopalians numbered 32, the Roman Catholics 45, the Presbyterians 18, and those of other denominations 5.

FRUIT-TREES FOR ORNAMENT.—It is often thought that Nature is usually sparse of leaf-beauty where the flower is highly ornamental, and stings with flowers where leaves assume in go proportions and elegant outlines; and, to a smaller extent, that she is apt to exhaust herself in an analogous way upon fruit. Nothing can be further from the fact than this supposition. When we consider the flowering charms of the greater portion of our fruit-trees, we are struck with astonishment that they are not more planted for their beauty alone. Take the apple in its countless varieties, and just consider that, if it did not give such crops of fruit, beautiful to look upon and more delicious in flavour than half the boasted fruits of the tropics, we should seek after it for the sake of its blushing cups, which turn the formal orchard into a scene of fairyland. Then we have the pear, which comes in earlier, and furnishes snowy masses of bloom, and with a more picturesque and handsome habit than the apple; but, unhappily, with the same fault of bearing delicious as well as ornamental fruit. From nearly every hardy fruit we may reap a long harvest of beauty—almonds, apricots, cherries, crab, medlars, peaches, plums, and quinces being all more or less ornamental. We have sought to do but place these objects, usually hidden in the orchard, in any open spots, in pleasure-grounds, by wood walks, in the fences at intervals, instead of the worthless stuff that now too often occupies them, and, in a word, in the many positions where many trees neither good for timber nor flowers now take up valuable ground. *The Garden.*

(From the *New York Times* of Dec. 10.)

The last act of the dismal drama occurred two days after Miss Deyoe was buried. On the Wednesday succeeding that Monday Wilber was himself found dead. His body was at the bottom of his own well, into which he had plunged headlong. Did he kill himself out of remorse or because he knew he was suspected and the circumstantial evidence was so strong against him? Heaven only can tell, for there are no other witnesses, and with Wilber's suicide the knowledge

SUNDAY TRADING IN THE NEW-CUT.

Oh, for an overcoming faith
To cheer his dying hour!
To triumph o'er the monster death,
And all its frightful power!

JUDGE LYNCH DISAPPOINTED.—The friends of Mr. McDonald Cheek, at present of Brookville, Indiana, recently paid him a nocturnal visit in his prison cell with rather unsatisfactory results. Mr. Cheek had committed the trifling impropriety of killing his father-in-law, and it was feared that he might not be hung sufficiently soon or well by the constituted authorities, so seventy-five of his neighbours concluded to make sure of Mr. Cheek at once. They came in the regular conventional style—masks, long coats, dark lanterns, and so on, not forgetting the indispensable rope. They had sledges and crowbars, too, to break down the prison doors, which they did with much dexterity and a great deal of noise. Brookville, however, on making out the cause of this unwonted clamour on the quiet Sunday night, only rolled itself up in its blankets and went to sleep again. It was only another "lynching." The doors down, there seemed to be no obstacle to going in; but the leader of the party, who seems to have been a person of method and with a fine feeling for dramatic effect, insisted on repeating as he went in, and on his companion repeating after him, the mysterious shibboleth,

ATTEMPTED MURDER AND SUICIDE.—A shocking crime was perpetrated, on Tuesday morning, at Islington. At about half-past nine a man named William Young, who had himself just arisen, obtained a life-preserver and inflicted a murderous blow on the head of his wife, who was still in bed. Fortunately, she was not stunned, and struggled with her assailant so as to prevent his repeating the blow until she was rescued by lodgers in the house. Young then locked the room door, and blew out his brains with a pistol. Jealousy is said to have been the cause of this dreadful crime. The woman's injuries are not likely to prove fatal.

On Dec. 23, very suddenly, of apoplexy, to the inexpressible grief of his family, D. died John, younger son of Thomas Williamson, Esq., of 12, Savage-gardens, Tower-hill, in the 34th year of his age.

FRIDAY, DEC. 22.

BARKEPUS—H. BENTHALL, Norfolk street, Strand,
quarrier—H. KING, Dulwich, brickmaker—L. MITCHELL,
Islington, boot manufacturer—J. ALLIGOOD, Algharkip Farm,
farmer—J. ASH, Cheshwynd End, miller—J. AYEIS, Norwich—
F. L. BRANDRETH, Taunton—C. W. CLARK, Aylesbury
builder—C. FRANK, Leighton Buzzard—J. H. FOOT—C. J. N.
D. G. (Cheesewyke), G. G. MITCHELL, Epsworth, butcher—
SCOTCHER, Great Yeldham, coal merchant.
SCOTCHER REQUISITIONS.—G. D. COUTTS, Kilsyth,
milliner—R. DICKSON, Padder, baker—J. DOUGLAS, Glas-
gow, wine merchant—D. FATH, Glasgow, draper—A. PRAT,
Glasgow, baker—R. G. G. FRANK, Glasgow, draper—W. G. ALL,
Glasgow, agricultural-implement maker—H. CANNING, Glas-
gow, brice manufacturer—D. MUNRO, Aulthwa, farmer.

TUESDAY, DEC. 26.
C. DAVLY, Editor.

BANKRUPTS.—**T. HAYLY,** Islington, miller—**A. M. HURST,** Dalton, financial agent—**H. ROLAND,** Aberavon, boot and shoe maker—**G. HELE,** Plymouth, music warehouseman—**R. and J. G. ASHFORD,** seed merchants—**C. HILL,** New Malden, tailor and draper—**J. LEGGETT,** Penrith—**W. THARME,** Stone, licensed victualler.

SCOTCH REQUESTERS.—**J. C. ANDREW,** New Stevenson, draper and tea merchant—**G. SPRONACH,** Ryehill, Ogys, farmer—**W. JAMES,** Dundee, brewer and spirit dealer—**W. J. JONES,** Inverness, tailor—**R. DOUGLAS,** Kilmirren and Aylth, watchmaker—**J. WATSON,** Edinburgh, bedstead manufacturer.



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